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THE CRESCENT AND THE CROSS.

The massacre of Christians by Mahometans at Jeddah on the 15th of June, may seem to many people an event of no great importance. But when we view it as an illustration of the present aspect of the two religions towards each other, it is quite a different affair. The lives taken were not many, and one

victim only, as far as we know, was British; but those who ever kept up communication with Eastern travellers will feel how much interest belongs to the deed at the present crisis, and how it may lead to complications the most serious that can threaten Europe.

The tendency of events for generations back has been to bring the two great symbols of dominion, the Cross and the Crescent, into more and more striking antagonism. They are the two most powerful organisations in the world, rivalled in numbers, of course, by Brahminism and Bhuddism, but in practical supremacy, the governing religions of the human race. They agree in the great features of the unity of the Deity, and the instinct of propagandism, and while all the great modern history of Europe has sprung out of the one, all the great modern history of Asia has sprung out of the other. As the Roman Empire waned, it was supplanted in the two countries by these respectively. They grew up in each other's sight, and to the full consciousness of each other's enmity. They fought in battles so distant now that their details are overgrown with poetry and romance. The grand movements of the Crusaders, the long struggles in Spain, the wars in the Mediterranean and on the Danube, between the advanced guards of Christendom and the Moslems, are among the proudest of our Gothic recollections. The capture of Constantinople by the Ottoman Turks was the one final mark which the disciples of the Prophet left on Europe. It was an historical anomaly: since, close after that

date, the Cross has been rising, and the Crescent waning in the sky. Europe, inspired by the nobler creed, has extended her power in every direction, and developed it at home with every variety of invention and discovery. The fairest and most famous parts of Asia have been under the Crescent meanwhile, and have fallen back into stagnation or

attention to it, he finds it difficult to make his enthusiasm about Asia understood. The quarter of the globe from which issued the faiths, the hero races, the languages, and the philosophies on which our civilisation is based, has become a mere object to Europe of curiosity or contempt. It has come to be looked on as the abode of peoples which we conquer at vast odds whenever we

care to try, and whose manners and costume are only interesting in proportion as they are theatrical. This feeling grows gradually stronger, and gains ground from the political events of late years, for, wherever we look, we find the North encroaching more and more upon the East.

Thus, in the last century, Russia has made great inroads on the Porte; England has triumphed over many Mahometan potentates of India; France has established a colony and a system of conquests in Algeria. And so, the influence progresses. We have an overland route, which more and more demands "points" of convenience and support along the coasts of the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. Officers of our Indian armies have penetrated to Mecca and the most sacred places of Moslem belief. Telegraph lines are discussed and prepared for. In a score of ways the antagonistic principles are brought face to face.

But then the great events of the last few years; the Russian war—the Persian war—the Indian mutiny, have brought this movement publicly home to the eyes and hearts of all true Mussulmans. They see the Porte defended against Russia; but while defended,

made subservient in its policy—above all, in its religious policy, its treatment of Gicours—to other Christian nations. They see the Persian chastised. They see the rebel Mahometans of India defeated and executed, and the long line of the house of Tamerlane ending in a jail. These are the great phenomena which really underlie the massacre of twenty Franks at a seaport



THE JAILER'S DAUGHTER.—[FROM A PICTURE BY P. H. CALDERON IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.]

barbarism. Whole provinces remain half cultivated, or haunted by robbers—government is weak and corrupt—life (however picturesque) is rude bravado. When we consider what Asia once was to Europe, and think of what it has been for the last few centuries, we are struck with wonder, and the contrast is so great that when a writer like Disraeli calls

town which we have this week heard of. It may seem, we repeat, a small event, but it springs from great ones. When an earthquake nearly destroyed Lisbon, the same movement made the water start up in Scottish lakes; and this is the way that mighty movements also act in the moral and historical world. Very likely more local explanations of the Jewish massacre were forthcoming. There may have been personal as well as religious influences at work. But, allowing for all this, we shall still maintain that the deed was connected by clear distinct threads with the whole historical circumstances already detailed. And it is important that the public should see it in this light, and not gaze at it over as one of the capricious freaks of barbarous crimes only.

Of course, it is easy to say what ought to be done in consequence of this particular atrocity when considered by itself. Ample reparation must be made, and chastisement inflicted; and it may be well to consider what guarantees we ought to require for future security, and whether our now renewed lease of power in India will not require a larger naval force than hitherto in those parts. All this immediate work may safely be left to the energy of the Government, in harmony (as we believe it to be) with the Government of France, which has on this occasion been even more violently insulted than ourselves. But when we come to the farther questions connected with the incident—the general agitation of the Moslem mind, the weakness of the Porte in relation to its vassals, and its inefficiency for the protection of its Christian subjects; finally, to the way in which these difficulties may affect European politics by and by—we open a field of inquiry of the most important and difficult kind. The Eastern question involves the possibility of war between the European Powers, and that (as we said the other day) involves all kind of political and internal questions for the nations, too. It would be absurd to lay down a policy on such subjects in a paragraph; and we are not going to make the attempt. But it is worth while to show the magnitude of the possibilities connected with the event which has suggested this article, and that for another reason besides the general importance of the subject. We can, in England, avoid a foolish meddling with foreign politics. We can avoid endeavouring to impose upon other nations a constitution which needs a good deal of repair among ourselves. We can avoid squabbles with Continental nations about matters with which we have little to do. But we cannot—with our position in India and the Mediterranean—avoid the difficulty (whenever it may come) of contributing our quota to the settlement of the East. We must always be ready to decide what line to take when the condition of the Porte's Government or finances becomes serious; and therefore it is that we ought not to pass over a Jewish slaughter of Europeans without most anxious remark. The opportunity must be taken of coming to an explanation with the Porte about its capability of keeping order in districts where Europeans reside under its protection, or its willingness to yield to them the means by which they may protect themselves. We must also know what degree of agreement still exists between England and Louis Napoleon on the general subject of the Porte, notwithstanding their difference of opinion about the Principalities, and the ill-omened junction of a Russian frigate with the French squadron in the South. If common appearances are to be trusted, our alliance is as much desired by him as ever, notwithstanding this last fact; and we cannot doubt that that alliance is the best hope for Europe during the complications arising from an increasing antagonism between Christianity and Mahometanism co-existing along with the political necessity of maintaining the power of the Sultan. For it is in that complication that the knot of the famous Eastern question lies.

THE JAILER'S DAUGHTER.

If we were a despotic monarch, we should take care that our Petropaulovsk fortress, our Spielberg Castle, or our Chateau de Vincennes, were governed by a jailer without a daughter. That jailer's daughter is always spoiling the plans of the incarceration of innocents. They are handsome, she is tender-hearted, the father is a drunkard, and a bottle of brandy and a turn of the massive lock settle the whole business. Or if the young lady cannot compass the loved one's escape, she can procure him numberless comforts during the period of his confinement. Who supplied Witskywitsky, the Pole, with all kinds of books while he was shut up in St. Petersburg? Who gave Sczeedy, the Hungarian, his tobacco when the Austrian tormentors had deprived him of it? Who introduced the writings of Victor Hugo and Schekelher into Mont St. Michel, when Rognet, the republican, was there pining for sympathy and support from his fellow-sufferers? In each case, we answer for it, it was the jailer's daughter. As the daughter of the horse-leech cried perpetually, "Give, give, give," so the daughter of the jailer exclaims without ceasing, "Take, take, take." It is she who renders tolerable the prison that would otherwise be a grave, and sometimes even converts it into a bower of felicity.

We fancy that Providence, which places the oasis in the desert, and plants flowers by the side of thistles, has willed that jailers shall not be childless, and that their children shall be girls. Look, you who have read M. de Stendhal's admirable book, at Fabrizio in the state prison of Parma. He is on the point of abandoning himself to despair, and his position is indeed a hopeless one, when suddenly in a conservatory just facing his window, he perceives Clélia, the daughter of General Conti, the governor. Day after day he gazes at the "jailer's daughter," and she knowing that the Fabrizio of her heart is condemned to die, waters her flowers as plentifully as if such were an hyacinth. At last they love one another, a regular system of communication by signs is established, and at a given moment Clélia rushes to Fabrizio's cell, and arrives just in time to save her beloved one's life—for to avoid the scandal of a public execution it has been resolved to poison him.

Richard Cour de Lion, again, owed his preservation in part, it is true, to Blondel, but principally to the "jailer's daughter," without whom nothing could have been done. Blondel might have sung and played from morning till night; that would not have loosened the King's fetters, nor would music alone have had much effect upon the heart of his custodian. But Blondel sings, the jailer causes him to enter the prison to continue his song, and this singing leads to drinking and joviality generally, joviality to intoxication, and intoxication to unconsciousness. Then comes forward the soft-hearted, unfeeling daughter, who robs her father of his keys, liberates his Majesty, and elopes with "the pretty page."

But in most cases we believe that it is with the prisoner himself the young lady falls in love; and therefore if the jailer's daughter in Mr. Calderon's picture were only a shade better-looking, we would not pity the supposed victim in the least; for better in the course of time he will be restored to freedom there can be no doubt; and, in the meanwhile, his existence will be anything but an unhappy one. It is all very well for the painter to show us an open window through which the exterior landscape is just visible, as if that were something to be deeply regretted. The prisoner will have enough to do staring into the large eyes of the jailer's daughter, and will find pictures sufficient in her ever-changing countenance; and in due time or will be liberated, and perhaps, like the Fabrizio before a haled to, will regret his captivity, and find that every place is a prison where she is not. But that he will escape is certain. Either the jailer's daughter will herself take the keys from her father's pocket, or she will press into her service that

little sister who is already so willing to assist her; and the deed will be done by a child not yet six years of age, but who, thanks to the atmosphere of a prison, is in mind considerably older.

There is also another more complicated and more dramatic scheme by which Mr. Calderon's prisoner might gain his liberty. In love it often happens that instead of the reciprocal business, Tom loves Sally, Sally Bill, and Bill Mary Ann. Now if the jailer's daughter loves the prisoner, her lover is probably some person who lives outside the prison, and for whom she does not care a fig. She promises this person her hand on condition that he drinks copiously that evening with her father, so that the escape of the one she does love, may be effected while the old man is intoxicated. Then she takes poison like Leonora, in the "Trovatore;" or else makes up her mind to lead a resigned, sacrificial sort of life, like the heroine of a modern English novel. But the best view to take of the matter, is that which involves the elopement of the jailer's daughter with the prisoner himself; for then, not only does all "end happily," as novel-readers say; but there is a little girl left, who, in the course of time, will grow up and be able to liberate and elope with a prisoner herself.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The announcement that the Queen of England has accepted the invitation of the French Emperor, to be present at the fêtes at Cherbourg, has given much more satisfaction in Paris than in London. The French journals glow with enthusiasm as they record this new proof of the captivity of England to the unformed monster called an alliance.

There are rumours of something like another conspiracy against the Emperor's life having been discovered, and of arrests having been made. Italians are, as usual, the parties said to be implicated, and a priest of that country is in custody.

It seems that the office of Director General of Public Safety will be revived, and be attached, as before, to the Department of the Interior.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Cabinet seems to have been occupied with the consideration of insults and injuries inflicted upon it by other Powers. A note "to demand explanations from the English Cabinet, relative to the offensive language employed by Lord Malmesbury towards Spain," has been drawn up in terms which, says the "Espana," "possess all the dignity and energy which become a nation of such glorious antecedents as ours, and such as is required by the gratuitous and unjust nature of the accusation and by the dignity of the Spanish name." Moreover it is projected to send 10,000 troops to Mexico to demand peremptory reparation for the outrages committed on Spanish subjects, and, in case of refusal, to commence hostilities. An imposing squadron is to accompany the expedition.

Marshal O'Donnell has issued a decree ordering the ramparts of Alicante to be demolished, so as to allow room for the expansion demanded by the trade of the town. The same measure is to be applied to other towns where the population is outgrowing the area, and particularly to St. Sebastian.

Fifteen civil governors have been superseded.

RUSSIA.

The Russian subsidy to Prince Danilo, of Montenegro, which for three years has been unpaid, was, according to the "Oest Deutsche Post," paid by the Russian Consul on the 27th of June last. The amount sent was 27,000 ducats.

It is reported that there are now in China no less than ten or twelve distinguished Russian officials on a secret mission, the object of which is supposed to be to make a treaty, if possible, between the Russian and Chinese Governments which will give the former the sole privilege and control of trading—not only the inland trade, but in all the ports of this great empire. Some of these officials have privately proceeded to Peking, and have had an audience with the Emperor.

ITALY.

In consequence of the recent disturbance in Rome between the Papal troops and those of the French garrison, General Guyon intimated that he would declare Rome in a state of siege; Cardinal Antonelli thereupon threatened to take off the Pope and Court to Ancona under Austrian patronage; a little passage of arms, which makes the position of the French in Rome unpleasant.

There was a rumour at Turin that the Neapolitan Government had offered an indemnity of 100,000 francs for the detention of the *Cagliari* and her crew, and that the company to whom the ship belonged refused the sum as insufficient.

The Genoa "Corriere Mercantile" states that the Archduke Maximilian, in passing through Padua, ordered some students, who had been arrested for joining in a demonstration to the memory of Felice Orsini, to be set at liberty; but that, as soon as he was gone, the military authorities caused them to be again imprisoned.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

M. TROUVENEL, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, has applied to the Porte for its acquiescence in the wish of the plenipotentiaries of the great Powers to revise the act relative to the navigation of the Danube. We also hear that the Turkish Ambassador at Paris was to apply to the English Government to order the evacuation of Perim.

Considerable agitation against Europeans prevailed at Suez, and it had been found necessary to send troops there in order to prevent a movement.

The Sultan has issued an Imperial decree, calling out a large number of men, to fill up the losses occasioned by the recent expeditions, and for the purpose of "enforcing the engagements entered into with foreign Powers."

Hostilities have again broken out in Montenegro. The Turks are said to be the aggressors.

AMERICA.

There is a rupture between the United States and Mexico, the cause of which seems to be this: The new and revolutionary Government of Mexico had resolved upon a forced loan, and when this resolution was known great excitement arose in the capital. Those foreigners who refused to find the money were ordered to leave the country; and not only so, but the goods of the American citizens who would not comply were seized. The American Minister, therefore, demanded his passports, and received them.

In respect of the Right of Search question, the news is merely a confirmation of the announcement already made in London. The British Government abandons not only the practice of the right of search or visit, but also the principle; and the whole matter will be promptly considered and settled on a basis to prevent trouble hereafter.

One of the Washington papers "understands from a reliable source" that the President had determined to send such a naval force to Nicaragua as "will convince the Governments of England and France that our way to our Pacific possessions is not to be interfered with."

Advices from Camp Scott, Utah, to the 10th of June, appear to corroborate a report previously received, that General Johnston would shortly move into Salt Lake city. His force is very small—at the greatest, not more than 3,000 effective men.

AUSTRALIA.

AUSTRALIAN journals recently received go to show that a very strong feeling of irritation exists at the inefficiency of the mail service, which, indeed, is not at all to be wondered at. The "Melbourne Argus" says—"This is what the people of Victoria will stand no longer; and the British Government will be duly put in possession of a solemn resolution upon the subject, passed unanimously by the Legislature, and which was despatched by the last mail."

The gold fields continue to be steadily productive.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

The news from India is comprehended in the following items, per telegraph:—

Sir Colin Campbell was still at Fatehgarh, on the 31st of May. The Calpee rebels were advancing upon Gwalior; they were plundering, but paying for everything. A large body of British troops were concentrating in Gwalior.

Seindia was reported to have been beaten by the rebels on the 1st of June, and to have arrived at Agra. Some of his own troops died in the fight.

The rebels were again becoming troublesome in Central India, re-occupying many forts from which they had been driven by General Rose.

General Jones had burnt Mohumdee and the adjacent villages without opposition. Chundy was occupied by Smith's Brigade.

An extensive fire had broken out in the English barracks at Allahabad. The Governor-General exerted himself greatly, but five ranges of buildings were destroyed. The soldiers escaped without injury.

Lucknow was still threatened by the enemy.

Troops were marched against the Moulvie at Shahabad, and working parties had been sent to destroy the jungles in which the mutineers still held out.

The Barrackpore regiments had received the option of disbandment or of service in China.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

AN almost unintelligible telegram informs us that "the news from Lord Elgin is to the 29th of April, when the allied forces were in the Gulf of Peiho. The French had got two gunboats over the bar, but our two despatch-boats had stuck. The English and French admirals were both at Peiho, and it was expected that in a few days the first blow in the north might be struck by the capture of the forts at the mouth of the river. The Chinese Government had named commissioners to negotiate, but the letter announcing the fact had not arrived [? owing] to an assumption of superiority on the part of the Chinese." The steamer Sampson had taken up two gunboats and 150 Sappers to the Peiho. Her Majesty's 59th Regiment was reported under orders for the north. The French transport *Girarde* had arrived with 900 marine infantry. We learn that 1,000 English troops had also arrived at Hong-Kong.

MASSACRE OF CHRISTIANS.

IN the town of Jeddah, on the coast of the Red Sea, the Mahometan population have risen against the Christians, whom they massacred wherever they were found. Among the victims were the French Consul and his wife, and Mr. Page, our own Vice-Consul, and his household; they were literally hacked to pieces. About twenty other persons were put to death, and the English and French Consulates were plundered.

The massacre happened on the 15th of June, and on the 19th a Turkish official arrived with 800 troops. This was the Governor-General of the sacred province of Arabia, who happened at the time to have been in Mecca. Her Majesty's ship *Cyclops*, which was cruising about, also did some service in rescuing those who had fled. Two boats sent to the town were attacked, and the men were obliged to fire on those who endeavoured to intercept their retreat. The daughter of the French Consul got on board the *Cyclops*, so did the French interpreter, and a number of Greek and other Christians, some of whom were wounded, while others had to swim to escape from their murderers. The *Cyclops* then sailed for Suez, and the news was telegraphed home from Malta.

A young Greek of Candia killed a Turk in self-defence. The body of the Mussulman was conveyed to the mosque, and a general rising took place. The European consulates, as well as the Catholic churches, were insulted. The French flag was fired on, and the hotel of the Turkish admiral was threatened, unless the Greek was put to death. The Greek was strangled by order of the admiral, and his body was given up to the populace, and was dragged by them before the houses of the consuls. The Christians are leaving the Cana in crowds.

The Turks at Retimo have devastated the churches in that town, wounding several of the clergy, and taken possession of the citadel, the artillerymen stationed in it taking part with the mob.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

THE *Agamemnon* arrived at Queenstown on Monday morning, having left the rendezvous in the centre of the Atlantic on the 6th inst.

On the voyage out with the other vessels of the squadron a succession of tremendous south-westerly gales was encountered, which scattered all the ships for some days. During this time the very heavy and unequal load on board the *Agamemnon* made her condition one of danger. At one time, indeed, the storm was so violent that the chances were strongly in favour of her going to the bottom with all on board.

The worst storm was during the 20th and 21st of June, when the *Agamemnon* rolled so heavily and dangerously as in her then trim to lead to serious fears that the masts would go overboard, or that she would capsize completely and founder.

In these heavy lurches the coals which were stowed in the main and lower decks broke away, and seriously injured several of the crew.

The electric instruments were all injured. The main coil in the bottom of the hold shifted. The deck boats got adrift. The iron screw guard was wrenched in two, and the waste steam-pipe between the boilers broken, all by the heavy rolling. Twice, after every effort had been made to ease the ship, which was much hampered by the upper deck coil of 236 tons forward, it was found necessary to run before the wind, so that it was only on the 25th of June that the rendezvous was made, and the other vessels of the squadron sighted.

The first splice was made on the 26th, and was broken an hour afterwards on board the *Niagara*, three miles had been paid out from each vessel. The second splice was also made on the 26th, and broke at 4 a.m. on the morning of Thursday, the 27th, parting apparently at the bottom of the sea, after some miles had been made from each ship. The third and last splice parted at 10.30 p.m. on the night of the 29th, about six fathoms below the stern of the *Agamemnon*, after 146 miles had been paid out of that vessel. The cause of the last fracture is not known, as the strain of the wire was only 2,200 lbs.

After this the *Agamemnon* returned to the rendezvous, and cruised for five days, during which she met with sufficient bad weather to prove that the removal of the upper deck coil had almost restored her to her trim, and certainly rendered her buoyant on a sea. Unfortunately, the *Niagara* did not return to the rendezvous, so that the only fine weather which the expedition had was totally lost, and the *Agamemnon* had to proceed to Queenstown.

There are still 2,500 miles of wire on board the two ships. It is intended to fill up with coal and fresh provisions and start for a final attempt to-day (Saturday).

THE TRIAL OF THE MARQUIS DI CAMPANA.—The great Campana trial came to a conclusion on the 5th inst. The criminal tribunal found the Marquis guilty of the persecution and abuse of power attributed to him in his administration of the Monte di Pietà, and condemned him in consequence to the galleys—that is to say, imprisonment with hard work for twenty years. It is not generally believed that this sentence will be carried out in all its rigour. As a kind of edict to this sentence, the criminal tribunal has ordered the prisoner's advocate, Signor Marchetti, to be suspended from the exercise of his profession for three months, as a punishment for the piquancy of his rejoinders and warmth of his expressions in defence of his client.

ABDUL PACHA, who so unfortunately met his death by the accident on the Nile Railway, has left a legacy of 1,600,000 francs, and diamonds to the value of 500,000 francs, to Baronne Vigier (née Mlle. Cravelli). He had never spoken to her in his life, but made his will after seeing her on the stage of the Opera.

VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO CHERBOURG.

The Queen has accepted the invitation of the French Emperor to be the inauguration of the works at Cherbourg. Attended by members of her cabinet (and it is said by the Emperor), Her Majesty will arrive on the 14th of August, and after a short stay, probably of one day only, will journey here, where she is to meet her daughter and the Prince of Wales, on the six o'clock of the line, six minutes, and a portion of the Admiralty steam yacht will accompany her Majesty. This squadron, or fleet as it should be called, is to consist of the *Prince of Wales*, 121, flag of Vice-Admiral of the White; the *Commander-in-Chief*, *Hood*, 64, flag of Rear-Admiral of Red Sir Charles Howe Fremantle; *Benbow*, 84; *Orion*, 11; *Albatross*, 94; *Essex*, 94; the *Exarchus*, 54; the *Impetuous*, 37; the *Albatross*, 92; the *Charybdis*, 31; the *Baron*, 22; the *Triumph*, 21; *Albatross*, 96; the *Victoria* and *Albert* steam-yacht, the *Fairy* tender, the *Elfin* Royal tender, the *Osborne* Admiralty yacht, the *Empire* Admiralty yacht, the *Queen* Admiralty yacht, the *Albatross* steam tender.

It is by her Majesty's express desire that Admiral Lord Lyons accompany this squadron of honour; Rear-Admiral Sir C. Fremantle being in command.

ISLAND.

FOURTEEN WITH A BULLDOG.—Lord John Dolin, or Dowla, an East Indian, was engaged at Armagh with having been lodged in the house of the Lord John Beresford, with the intention of committing robbery and carrying him to his Lordship. Lord John slept before the massacre, at about half-past eleven o'clock on the evening of the 2nd, while he was sitting in his study, he heard repeated noises in the room which he could not account. He took a double-bladed "saber," proceeded to the hall; he could see no person, but he heard the sound of fighting; he placed the candle on a slab, and rushed on whoever was to come forward, saying that he felt a revolver. A man then rushed up to him, and he followed him to the end of the passage, where there was a window partly open. He Lord John now struck at the man with the sabre, the other returning the blow with a knife. The prisoner tried to open the window, but failing in this, he tried the next, where the man rushed into the dining-room; Lord John did not attempt follow him, as he apprehended that the man might have some arms there. There were two doors to the dining-room; the man ran down and out of the other, where Lord John caught him; and again the man, where Lord John struck at Lord John. The man escaped. On cross-examination, Lord John Beresford said that he thought the man had black crabs over his face, and that if seen were crabs by candle light, his face would present an appearance similar to the prisoner's. He Lord John believed he would have killed the prisoner if he had struck him with the sabre. The prisoner went out selling perfumery in the neighbourhood. The jury were unable to give a verdict, though it appears they were disposed to find the prisoner guilty of having been in the house without the intention of stealing.

ALBANY DESCRIPTION IN PHYSICAL.—The report of the select committee asked to inquire into the destitution alluded to exist in the Glax-dore Conshandine district, in the county of Donegal, has been published. It is a sad tale that "the general condition of the people is certainly not worse than it has been for many years, nor does it appear to your committee that it was, during the winter of 1857 and 1858, any increase of sickness in the district, or any increase in the number of applications for admission to workhouse." That the poverty among the people is not attributable to landlords. No attempt has been made to drive the tenants from their homes, or to take from them any lands over which they had any real title; and it has been proved before your committee that the statement in the Appeal—Last year brought a sad change on these warm-hearted people. All the landlords of these districts, save one, simultaneously evicted them of the mountains, giving them to Scotch and English graziers sheep-walks, and at the same time doubled, trebled, and, in many instances, quadrupled, the rents on the miserable patches left to them,—is daily devoid of foundation.²⁹

SCOTLAND.

THE EDINBURGH NATIONAL GALLERY.—The arrangements for giving to the public a National Gallery of Art are nearly matured. The building is completed, and the Treasury has appointed the first officers—the keeper Mr. M. Johnstone, of the Scottish Academy. The Trustees of the Board of Manufactures will hereafter appoint, and pay salaries, &c., from their funds. These will be relieved of the cost of the School of Design, which is now affiliated with the Science and Art Department. The Edinburgh School of Design has hitherto held an insulated position, apart from all other schools, and has not competed with them. Standing thus aloof, its cost has been at the rate of £6 or so per student for every one learning only drawing, whilst the average cost in schools of art is only 11s.

AN URSUANTIC ELOPEMENT.—The daughter of a small farmer, in the neighbourhood of Alloa, ran away with a juvenile smith. They eloped on Sunday, arriving in Glasgow on the same evening en route to New York, their arrival at which city they were to be married. In the meantime Vulem, in company with his sweetheart, called on an acquaintance, with whom they went out to take a view of the city. In the course of their promulations, the smith took his companions into a shop for the purpose of giving them some refreshment. Here he left them together, and was seen no more. It was afterwards discovered that he had gone to the house where they had first called on their arrival, and walked off with the girl's trousseau, containing, besides her wearing apparel, £3 in money.

A GRAZIER IN DISGRACE.—A criminal prosecution is about to be made against Mr. Pison, Bankhead, Partick, whose name will be remembered in connection with the "docking" of cattle at the last exhibition of the Yorkshire Agricultural Association; when two animals exhibited by Mr. Pison were found to have been "got up" by inflation, artificial horns, &c., on which grounds the prizes awarded them were subsequently withheld.

A NARROW ESCAPE.—Two old men were rescued from a most critical danger by the Point of Ayr life-boat, last week. Their craft had foundered, and they were on the crossbeams of the mast up to their waists in water, and a rapidly-rising tide. The vessel was the *Betty and Peggy*, of Beaumaris, with a cargo of slates.

THE PROVINCES.

THE DAGENHAM MURDER.—Blewitt, a laborer, charged on the confession of a woman named Smith, with being concerned with her husband in the murder of the police man, Clarke, at Dagenham, in 1876, was brought up for final examination before the bench of magistrates to-day. The only additional evidence was a further statement made by a woman that the prisoner was the second man who on the night of the murder struck the policeman Clarke. The prisoner, on being asked if he had anything to say to the charge, replied firmly,—"I am not guilty of it." He was committed for trial.

LOVE OR?—A man named Adcroft, was charged at Preston on Saturday morning, while wandering in the streets at an early hour. The prisoner, who wore Dartmoor Prison dress, said that he was on his way to Helmsboro, below Ringling; that in 1851 he was sentenced to seven years' transportation; that in 1853 he obtained a ticket of leave, but being caught begging in Aconington in 1857, he was sent to the House of Correction for fourteen days. During this violated his ticket of leave, he was consigned from Preston to the House of Correction to undergo his probationary time (fifteen years) at the latter place. This expired on Friday last. He left that morning on the morning of that day, reached the Preston Junction late at night, and made the best of his way home; but while walking through the town at an untimely hour, he was seen by a police-constable, and taken up. "The prisoner was the picture of anguish and despair," says the "Preston Guardian," "and begged, in fearful and most piteous accents, to be allowed to go in peace to see whether his old father was dead or alive. His request was granted, and he left the town with all the speed of which he was capable."

TRAIN SMACK BY LIGHTNING.—At Teepfields, on the Steep Valley railway, a train was overtaken by a severe thunderstorm. The engine-driver and the stoker suddenly found themselves wrapped in a sheet of blue lightning, which rendered him insensible. Every one in the train felt the shock, and the trainmen nearest to the door more so than the rest. One of the passengers, Benjamin Hicklin, was paralysed for a time, and it was not without difficulty that the guard got home without assistance.

THE PENALTY OF A KISS.—At Bradford, last week, the schoolmaster of that town, was charged with an assault upon Mrs. Martha Briggs, aged 46, is an executrix under the will of her late husband. On the 17th inst. while at Mrs. Briggs's house, he took the liberty to lay hands upon her, and give her a kiss. This was the charge of assault. The magistrates imposed a fine of £2, and costs 18s. 6d.

[illegible]

THE ATTRACTIONS OF SHERNESS. A Mr. George Smith, on landing at Sherness pier, on day last week, observed a man lying with his face to the mud. The body was awaiting a coroner's inquest, and, in order to prove if his being washed away by the tide, he was made fast by the leg to a log of timber, with a rope tightly fastened, so that the body was floating at high water, and lying on the mud when the tide was out. It will scarcely be believed that this horrible spectacle was taken place, day after day, within thirty yards of Sherness pier, a short distance round a dozen mud-castles, close to a resort, and probably in a public station. The atrocity is accounted for by the squabbles of the overseers and coroners of Kent and Rochester.

MURDER AND SUICIDE AT GRAYSSEND.—A man named Knight, a hawker of artificial flowers, and the friend of a young woman who travelled with him in a dog, and a second wife of him in the same manner. They were lost in the morning in Graysend. A hawker of the man gave evidence at the inquest, which was held at the Graysend police station, before the attempted suicide by hanging. Two of his sisters had died in a lunatic asylum, and another had been removed to a mad-house this week. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased Jane Moore was wilfully murdered by John Knight, and that John Knight committed suicide whilst labouring under temporary insanity.

Time Member by a Texaco. At the Hartford session, on Friday week, a verdict of "Not guilty," on the ground of insanity, was returned against the prisoner, Henry Arnold, who beat Miss Sarah Barber to death with a bludgeon, on the road near the lunatic asylum, from which he had escaped.

THE CREMONASE FETE.—The latest Cremonese Gardens, for the "nobility and gentry" alone, who provoked so much gossip, was an utter failure. The price of admission was half-a-crown, the test of fitness a place on the visiting lists of the holy personages. The funds were open to some charity, and 3,000 tickets were sold. Cremonese was benighted for its select revellers; there were profuse illuminations, an abundance of flowers, real piase from H'mcock's. But the weather spoiled all the anticipated enjoyment. The rain poured down, and prevented the pleasure-hunters from engaging in any of the out-door amusements practicable at Cremonese. Nevertheless, 2,000 persons were present; and it is reported that "they toiled to secure an evening's pleasure with a zeal worthy of a higher cause."

THE EAST INDIA COMPANY AND THEIR POSSESSIONS. — A special meeting of the East India Court of Proprietors was held on Monday, to take into consideration the India Bill, as now adopted by the House of Commons. Mr. Crawshaw, who was the moving spirit of the meeting, proposed the adoption of a petition to the House of Lords, embodying various objections against the bill. The petition argues that a full and searching inquiry should have preceded the abolition of the Company; it condemns the power of secret action, which the bill reserves to the Minister for India; and it makes other statements, with which the public are already familiar. Some discussion on the petition took place, but a motion for adjournment was carried, and in the meanwhile the petition was ordered to be printed.

THE WOOLWICH FOUNDRIES.—Some 68-pounder guns, recently cast at Woolwich Arsenal, were subjected to a series of proofs on Monday. These experiments were regarded with more than ordinary interest in consequence of all the guns heretofore cast at this establishment having been condemned on proof. The experiments on Monday were conducted with the utmost secrecy; but we believe the result was favourable.

THE EXETER HALL SERVICES.—The Rev. Mr. Edouart comes again before the world as the opponent of the Exeter Hall services. He has served each of the twelve gentlemen who are advertised to preach with a notice, in which he protests against the services as illegal, and hints that unless they are abandoned he will further interfere for their suppression.

DEAN OF THE ARCHES.—The offices of Dean of the Arches and Official Principal of the Arches Court have been conferred by the Archbishop of Canterbury on the Right Hon. Dr. Lushington. The functions of the Dean of the Arches are now merely nominal, but the Official Principal of the Arches Court is the Judge of the Court of Appeal of the Province of Canterbury. The Court of Appeal was formerly held in Bow Church, or the Arches Church ("Sancta Maria de Arcebus"), and hence it derived its name of the Arches' Court, which name it retained when the seat of judicature was transferred to the Common Hall of the College of Advocates in Doctors' Commons. It is reported that Dr. Travers Twiss will succeed Dr. Lushington as Chancellor of the Diocese of London.

THE PAPER DUTIES.—An important meeting was convened at Peele's Coffee-house, on Monday, by the Association for the Relief of the Taxes on Knowledge, to consider the subject of the paper duties. The meeting was attended by a large number of newspaper proprietors and gentlemen connected with serial publications, and Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., was in the chair. The result of the discussion was the appointment of a committee to agitate for the repeal of the obnoxious duty.

THE CONFSSIONAL IN BELGIUM.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has confirmed the decision of the Bishop of London, as to the revocation of Mr. Poole's licence; the ground of which revocation was "that admitting a formal confession, you address to them questions of a character calculated to bring scandal on the Church." The publication of the correspondence between the Bishop and Mr. Poole, on this subject, has prepared the public to anticipate the result of the appeal to the Archbishop. The Bishop's letters exhibit all the courtesy and care, and the dignity too, with which he might have been expected to treat so delicate and important a subject; while Mr. Poole's explanations, though they give us the impression that the accusations against him were exaggerated, are certainly not satisfactory.—A great open-air demonstration against the Confessional, was held in the grounds of St. Paulin, at Chelsea, on Monday evening. It was said that Lord John Russell would be present; but the proceedings were chiefly conducted by Mr. Westerton and Mr. Paul Fosskett. A memorial to the Queen was adopted.

ELEPHANTINE WRATH.—The young elephant born a few months ago, at the Jardin des Plantes, Paris, has been in some danger of falling a victim to the anger of his sire. A strong antipathy exists between the pair, and it was hoped to diminish this feeling by bringing the animals somewhat intimately together. The father was accordingly introduced into an enclosure inhabited by a strong iron railing from the cub. The latter at once commenced collecting sand and small pebbles with his trunk, and discharged them at the face of his parent, who immediately gave sign of terrible wrath. He withdrew to the extremity of the enclosure, and then charged down on the railing which separated him from his unfilial cub. Fortunately, the iron resisted the shock, and, after some difficulty, he was appeased and removed.

A NOTE OF WARNING.—The "Lancet" says: "Dysentery and cholera, or choleric dysentery, during the week ending June 26, was fatal in 54 cases; the numbers of the two previous weeks were 18 and 31; the number attained was double the average for corresponding weeks. This is sufficient to indicate the necessity for great caution during the hot weather which we are likely to pass through. Every hygienic precaution should be taken by individuals, by householders, by persons in authority, and by medical officers of health. Even now, without the presence of any epidemic disease, we lose weekly 200 persons in excess of the average of really healthy districts of England. The Registrar-General attributes this weekly sacrifice to the fatal influence of bad air, already over the average. The hot and stagnant autumn months are before us. The cholera has broken out at St. Petersburg. Paris just now is suffering greatly from typhus, scarlet fever, and small-pox. Therefore, although unwilling to play the part of alarmists, we say to all, 'Take care.'"

TERRIBLE FIREWORK EXPLOSION

Nor was this the whole of the damage. Some of the rockets from Madam Coten's factory shot into the premises of Mr. Gibson opposite; the fireworks in store here took fire, exploded, and repeated the first mischief in almost all its severity. The noise occasioned by the explosions, following each other so rapidly, was heard for a mile round; the houses in the neighbourhood were shaken and some indeed partially destroyed; while the inmates, with their church in their arms, came rushing out into the streets in a frenzy.

Naturally enough the firemen and police were all alerted for a few minutes; for smaller explosions continued to follow each other until everything in each building of an explosive character was destroyed, and there was a rumour abroad that a half-ton of gunpowder was stored in the magazine below; however, the men each set vigorously to work, to cover this imaginary shore with water.

In less than half an hour after the explosion, not fewer than sixty sufferers were taken to the neighbouring surgeries. Madam Coton was desperately injured; there was little hope of her recovery. Mrs. Gibson's condition, in a pecuniary condition, one might say is so hurt that not a feature of her face is distinguishable, and Mr. Gibson, seeing the rockets shooting across the road, made an attempt to run away, but her clothes became ignited and she was knocked down by a frightened cab-horse. The wheels of the cab passed over her legs, and the fire was only extinguished by the crowd trampling upon her clothes. She is fearfully burnt. A Mr. Dashiell, who was painting the front of Mr. Gibson's premises, upon hearing the first explosion, ran into Madam Coton's, and saving three children all terribly hurt, placed them in a cab and took them to an hospital, where he found his own son, only four years of age, who had been knocked down by the crowd and trampled upon. The mother of this child at the time of the explosion in Madam Coton's, was in Mr. Gibson's house, talking to his wife, there being also present her daughter and another little girl. This poor child, only eleven years of age, was next day found in the ruins of Gibson's house, burnt to a cinder. She had been sent to post some letters, and on her return she went into Mr. Gibson's, and was talking to his child when the explosions occurred. But we cannot go over the list of the sufferers by this melancholy accident—they are too many. We regard it as rather fortunate than otherwise, however, that property has suffered as well as life. We have a national respect for property; the fact that one or two neighbouring houses were set on fire, that some half-dozen others were partially destroyed, and a church was shaken to the foundation, will prove to "the authorities" that such a business as fireworks making ought not to be carried on in populous places.

NONE BUT THE BRAVE DESERVE THE FAIR.—The successful suitor for the hand of the Hon. Miss Jones Lloyd, only child of Lord and Lady Overstone, and the richest heiress in the kingdom, Major Lindsay, of the 8th or Fusiliers, brother of Sir Court Lindsay, Bart., Major Lindsay was one of the officers who so gallantly defended the colours of his regiment at Alma, escaping destruction himself by a miracle. The gallant officer wears the Victoria Cross.

A CURIOSITY IN PHOTOGRAPHY.—A photographer sends to the Editor of the "Times" a "photo stereo" of an exploding shell, taken during some experiments at Woolwich. He particularly calls attention to "the likeness of the human head which so distinctly dominates in the smoke;" and adds, "This phantom does not appear to be the result of chance, for on repeating the experiment it is invariably reproduced at a certain phase of the smoke's expansion."

GODFATHER OF A THOUSAND.—A Mormon journal, published in London, says that an old man died the other day in Westminster Workhouse, who, in the course of nine years, assumed the responsibility of becoming sponsor to upwards of a thousand children born in the workhouse. For the service of becoming godfather, he was, upon each occasion, rewarded by the parish authorities with a pint of porter.

MR. BARBER'S CASE.—The committee appointed to inquire into the case of Mr. W. H. Barber, the solicitor, who was convicted of will forgery, and sent to Norfolk Island, have concluded their labours. The committee report that Mr. Barber is entitled to the consideration of the Crown. Mr. Robert Peckham, a solicitor, who was an articled clerk to Mr. Barber, proved that that gentleman had a very lucrative practice at the time of his arrest.

THE FRASER GOLD MINES.—The excitement about the gold-mining on Fraser river continues to increase in California. It seems, however, that a check had been put upon emigration by a proclamation from the Governor of Vancouver's Island, ordering all trading vessels not having a license from the Hudson's Bay Company to leave Fraser's river and all other rivers, bays, and creeks in the British possessions. The English war steamer *Satellite* is said to have received orders to maintain a close blockade to prevent trading vessels ascending; but miners and their goods in open boats were not to be molested; and a large number of men were engaged cutting a road from Fraser Sound to the banks of the Fraser river.

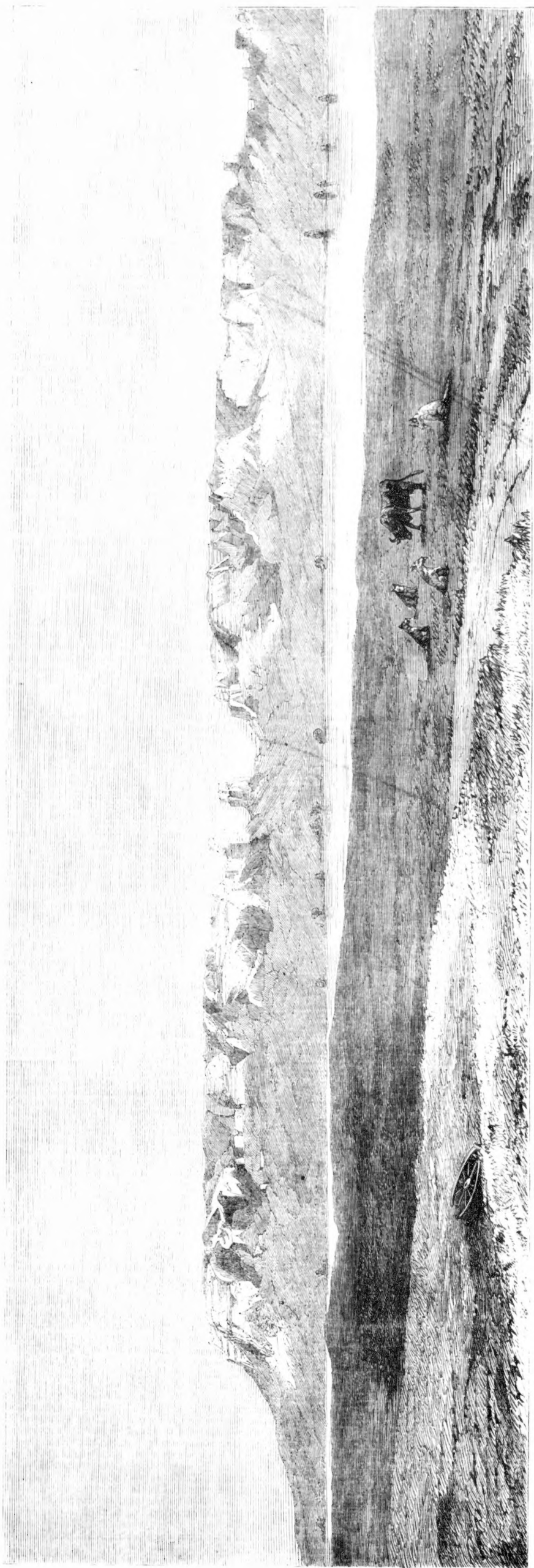
THE COMET AT LAST.—The famous comet which has been so long missing has at length made its appearance. Professor Donati, of Florence, certifies that he saw it for the first time on July 2. He has observed it frequently since; it looms daily larger and more luminous, and he expects to see it from the middle of August to September it will be visible to the naked eye.

THE ROAD TO UTAH.

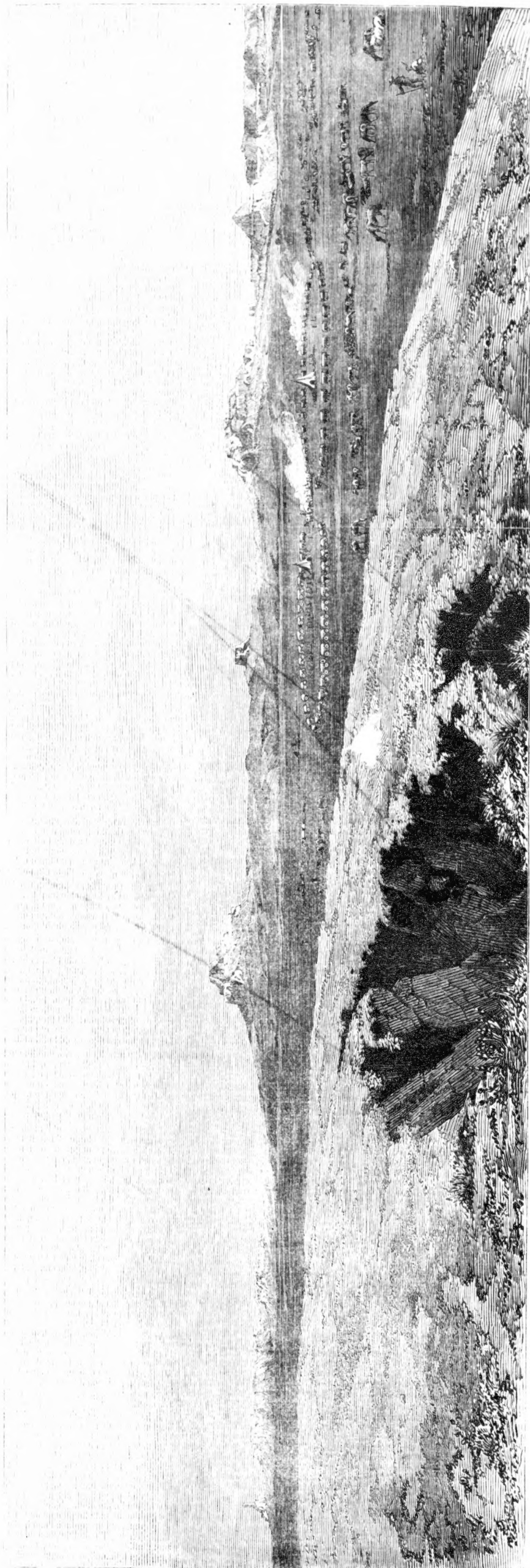
RESUMING our sketches of the road to Utah (No. 167), we give our readers in the engravings on the following page, a continuation of the way from Chimney Rock towards Scott's Bluffs. In the second of these pictures is shown the mode of camping adopted by American travellers. As the company is large, they have formed themselves into two circles called corals. This management is every way better than an extended line, or an irregular dotting about of wagons. Besides the advantage of keeping all the members of a large party snug and in sight of each other, a coral serves as a barricade in case of attack from Indians: and as an inclosure into which horses or cattle may be driven when they are to be harnessed or yoked. Cattle are very restless during storms, and if left unguarded they are driven before the wind and rain, far away from camp; and should it be dark as well as stormy, the only remedy is to drive them at once into the middle of the coral.

Scott's bluffs were named, it is said, after a Colonel Scott who was killed by a bear while hunting here. The bluffs are of an immense size, and have been worn by time and washed by rain into resemblances to castles, towers, and, as one shifts one's position, into various other strange forms. They are of the same stone as Chimney Rock, and when illuminated by the rising or setting sun are wonderfully beautiful—the parts illuminated being of a rich orange, while the shadows are of that glorious blue which Holman Hunt was bold enough to paint in his picture of the "Scape Goat." The misery of Hunt's goat could not exceed that of the wretched cow literally in the wilderness lost and fallen amongst wolves. We have seen her thus, surrounded by wolves waiting with infernal patience for the darkness of night to enable them to make their attack with safety.

The panoramic line in the accompanying sketches is to be read from the left of the lower illustration.



SCOTT'S BLUFFS.



RANGE OF ROCKS ON THE PLATE.

M. DELANGLE.

THE NEWLY-APPOINTED FRENCH MINISTER.

THE nomination of M. Delangle to the Home Department of France has proved highly satisfactory, both at home and abroad. Any one coming after General Espinasse was sure to be welcome; therefore it is nothing extraordinary that M. Delangle's appointment was viewed with favour, independently of any merits of his own.

M. Delangle proved docile enough while First President of the Imperial Court of Paris; but yet he is accustomed to legal procedure, has a natural respect for the law which he administers; and whatever his shortcomings, the Home Office has at any rate ceased to be directed like a barrack.

However, there is no reason to doubt M. Delangle's talent, any more than his liberality. During his short term of office, he has given proofs of both these qualities; and, indeed, it was by the solidity of his intelligence alone—by his legal learning, and his sagacity as a man of business—that he won his high place in the courts. This is all very well: for sagacity and industry are much wanted in M. Delangle's department at present; and of sound, frank advisers the Emperor appears to have not many. One sign of an improved state of things has strikingly appeared since M. Delangle's appointment. Not only is the garotte which choked the French press in General Espinasse's reign somewhat eased, but, the press makes the first use of its breath to cry for still more liberty. "Cry," is not exactly the word, perhaps; it is soft beseeching, rather; but, moderate as it is, no "able editor" would have dared to utter it under the régime of the military Bumble cashiered.

HIRING SERVANTS IN LOWER NORMANDY.

The Sunday of each year which precedes the 18th of July, commences



M. DELANGLE. THE NEW FRENCH MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY LUGNAY.)

in the rural districts of Normandy the hiring of farm-servants.

The assemblage of candidates for employment generally takes place on the village-green, where the country people of both sexes muster in force, and arrange themselves according to their capacities for office, the women adorned with bouquets, and the men carrying whips surmounted with bunches of flowers.

Every stage from youth to old age may be found there; the chubby boy and the stooping graybeard; the ruddy, buxom lass and the wrinkled, sun-burnt woman, telling of a life spent in toil, and a premature loss of vigour; the jolly miller, from whose lips comes an unceasing flow of song; the old shepherd in his picturesque dress, a kind of village Diogenes, whose sorrowful mien bears witness to the long hours of solitude in which his existence is slowly consumed.

The employer only makes a choice after having most carefully examined the personal appearance and physical qualifications of these tillers of the earth. If he is seeking a ploughman, he will cast his eye on some brawny lad, whose muscular limbs and sinewy hands give promise of a sturdy performance of his duties, and familiarity with hard work, one whose strong and pliant wrist is capable of guiding the plough through the furrows with steadiness and regularity. Again, the ploughman has absolute control in the stables; it is he who does the carting of the farm, and has the care and dressing of that noble team which is at once the pride of both master and man. The choice of a servant like this is not to be made recklessly.

While the worthy farmer is discussing the remuneration to be given for the men's "whips" (meaning their labour), his dame is battling and driving bargains with dairymaids and milking-girls. Confusion of argument and words on this side the green is certainly as great as was that of Babel.



HIRING OF SERVANTS IN LOWER NORMANDY.

The wages of a ploughman vary from £8 to £12; those of an ordinary labourer, from £1 to £5. A herdsmen gets from £2 to £3; if he picks hemp while tending the flock, he has given him a gratification at the end of the year, perhaps, a coarse shirt.

The poorer women servants earn from £6 to £10 a year, besides a gift of six yards of cloth, a pair of wooden shoes, and their little child and milk. The younger ones of twelve or fifteen years of age are paid from £2 to £4.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. NO. 81.

SHARP PRACTICE.

We have, we think, before described the process of bringing in bills; but that our readers may understand fully a little piece of sharp practice that was perpetrated on Friday night, or rather on Saturday morning, we will describe it again. The gentleman who wishes to bring in a bill first gives notice of his intention; this notice is printed on the notice paper; at the close of the night, when all the orders of the day are disposed of, he rises, and generally with a speed, modest or leave, &c. The motion is put from the chair, and, in almost all cases is carried *substantially*. At the end of all the other business, the member takes his stand at the bar, and is called by name by the Speaker, whereupon he exclaims, "Bill, Sir." "Bring it up," says the Speaker; and, on receiving it from the hands of the mace, he puts the question, "That the bill be read a first time." Now, on Friday night Mr. Disraeli moved for leave to bring in a bill to give effect to a proposed amendment between the Queen and the Prince of Wales about some rights of divorce in the Divorce of Lancaster—a bill which seems to be a very harmless affair—in fact, a mere matter of routine, and certainly one which ought not to have been opposed at its first stage. But Mr. Augustus Smith, the member for Truro, thought otherwise; he opposed the introduction of the bill, and divided the House upon it. Now, as it was half-past one o'clock, there was some difficulty in getting the requisite forty members. However, by dint of scouring out all the places which members frequent, it was done, and Mr. Smith was defeated by 35 to 5; and it was supposed that Mr. Smith, alarmed with the defeat, would offer no further opposition to the measure that night, especially as he would have plenty of opportunities of dividing at future stages of the measure. But Mr. Smith is not a man who is easily deterred. On some other occasions he has shown a remarkable tenacity of purpose; and on this he fully justified the character which he bears in the House, for, noticing that many members had left the House, he called the attention of the Speaker to the fact that there were not forty members present; and thus, by "a count out," prevented the bill from being brought up and read, and not only this bill, but some seven or eight others which the movers were waiting at the bar to bring up. The effect of this sharp practice is, that all these bills—most of them "continuation bills," which must pass—will have to be brought up again. Of course Mr. Smith was within the rules of the House; but it is sharp practice. This gentleman came into Parliament for the first time in 1857. He is a man of large property and influence in the Scilly Isles; indeed, we rather think he is sole proprietor of those islands. He lives at Trecoo Abbey, Trecoo, one of the islands, where he is "monarch of all he surveys," and he has the reputation of having achieved great good in his island domain in educating and civilizing his subjects. We wish that he had been quietly sleeping in his palace at Trecoo, that night instead of counting out the House; for it is not improbable that this feat of his may add a day or two to the session. Mr. Disraeli looked very grim at him, and if the Chancellor's writing days were not over, the Honourable Member might possibly find himself embroiled some day in a novel under a not very pleasant name.

A KING IN THE HOUSE.

It was on Friday night, when there was seen the unusual spectacle of a veritable negro, black as a coal, sitting in the place of honour under the gallery, which is set apart for the peers of England when they come down to listen to the debates in the Commons' House. The appearance of this gentleman in such a place excited a good deal of attention; and it was generally thought to be a mistake to place him there. "Surely," it was said, "the gallery for strangers was good enough for a nigger, but to place him amongst peers was an error." But on inquiry being made, it was found that the coloured gentleman bears a higher title than the proudest peer—for he is a veritable king—and not a king degraded by constitutional forms, but as despotic in his dominions as Louis Napoleon is in France; nay, more, for he is absolute, his will is law, and the life and property of every subject is entirely at his mercy. He is King of Bonny, on the western coast of Africa, and whom he will he can set up, and whom he will he can put down. His Majesty is an old man, and somewhat paralysed in his limbs. He was introduced into the House by our metropolitan monarch, Mr. Thwaites. He talks English well, and his sway is as benevolent as it is despotic, we understand. One of his achievements deserves record. He has put down cannibalism in his dominions, and taught his subjects to feed upon the fruits of the earth instead of devouring one another. It was a strange sight to him, that popular assembly of ours. It would be worth something to know what are his ideas of our representative government.

AN IRISH ROW.

On Thursday night, last week, my Lord Naas brought in his bill for the Abolition of the Dublin Police Force, and for substituting the Irish constabulary in its stead in the city. It came on when the members were most of them at dinner; and, in spite of the eloquence of Mr. Patrick O'Brien, passed its second reading, and was thought to be disposed of for that night. But, lo! at an opportune moment, in rushed some half-dozen Irish members, breathless with haste, just as the Speaker was putting the question that the bill be committed on Monday. Now, it is exceedingly rare that any debate arises on the question. It is considered to be merely formal—and to offer an opposition to it is, if within the rules, certainly not consistent with the usage of the House. But Irishmen care nothing for usage or etiquette when their tempers are up; and on this occasion the debate which had been finished was again renewed, and for two hours we had a jolly row. Mr. O'Brien denounced the bill—Mr. McCarthy swore eternal enmity to it—Mr. J. D. Fitzgerald fiercely attacked Mr. Whiteside for a personal attack upon one of the Dublin Police Commissioners—Mr. Sergeant Deasy, in passionate strains, and with vehement gestures, backed up his honourable friend; and even Mr. Wilson, the late Secretary of the Treasury, usually calm and wary, declared that Mr. Whiteside's conduct was unprecedented in quoting a letter of accusation against an absent man without also reading the said absent man's defence. Mr. Whiteside read the letter which he had quoted, when, lo! it turned out that the absent man had not been mentioned nor hinted at. Mr. Bowyer advised the Government to withdraw the bill. Mr. Maguire moved the adjournment of the debate, which motion allowed every member who had already spoken to speak again. At last Mr. McCann finished the discussion by declaring in his rich Irish brogue that he should support the "preceeding" speakers, and oppose the introduction of policemen with guns, and "barnets," and swords, into the city of Dublin. And then the row subsided. The cause of this opposition seems to be twofold. First, there is the old feud between Catholics and Protestants. According to Mr. Whiteside, it is impossible to get into the police-force, as at present constituted, the due proportion of Protestants. And secondly, the Irish members on the liberal side of the House object to the introduction of the constabulary armed like soldiers into the city. What the rights of the case are it is difficult for Englishmen to determine; but one thing is pretty certain, my Lord Naas will not pass his bill this year against such a formidable and passionate opposition, and so he had better withdraw it. It is noticeable that Disraeli never interferes in these Irish squabbles. Palmerston used to rush in and flourish his shield in true Irish style, and seemed to enjoy the fun. But all the while this fight was going on, Disraeli sat with his hat pulled over his brows, and wisely allowed the storm to expend itself without his interference; and we have our

notion that he will advise his Irish Secretary not again to provoke an Irish row, but quietly to withdraw his bill. It does not suit his book to excite Irish animosity against his Government.

CHANGE SIDES.

Those who are in the habit of attending concerts, and listening to the compositions of our great masters, must have observed that it is a common practice amongst them, when they wish to get into a new subject, to pass through an interval of discord, and then gradually to resolve into harmony again, with an entirely new subject and different key. Now, we sometimes imagine that, in the political world, we are going through this process; and at this moment are in the interval of discord, preparative to an entire change in the arrangement of parties. That all is discord in the political world just now, no man can doubt. In the Liberal camp the want of harmony is complete, for scarcely a dozen men are acting together. Nor is the discord much less harsh in the Conservative ranks, all appearances to the contrary notwithstanding. It is true that, for the present, the Conservatives are tolerably well together; but there is a good deal of secret disunion, nevertheless, which must show itself in open rebellion before long. This is observable in the tone of the Conservative journals. The "Standard" lauds the Conservative Government for its reforming, progressive tendency; the "Press" denounces these tendencies as un-Conservative; and it is also noticeable in the conversation of the old school of Conservatism—the Spencers, Newdegates, Bentincks, &c. They are not at all satisfied with the state of affairs. They vote, or they remain neutral; but they growl and grumble not a little, and begin to suspect that they have changed King Log for King Stork. The question is, then, what will this discord resolve into? It cannot last long. It is clearly, like the discordant passages of the musical composer, preparative to something else. The answer seems to be that eventually there will be a great change in the arrangement of parties. For many years past all the members on one side of the House were considered Liberals; all on the other Conservatives. But it is plain to all who have watched the House, that this arbitrary division no longer correctly symbolises the real state of parties. For instance, the advanced Conservatives are, in position, opposed to the Whigs; but what is the difference between their political views? Can any one say what is the difference between Palmerston, Russell, Grey, Wood, Labouchere, on the one side, and Disraeli, Walpole, Pakington, and Henley, on the other? Again, the Whigs and the Radicals sit together, and are called by the generic term, "Liberals." But what sympathy is there really between them? Surely, there is far more agreement between the Liberal Conservatives and the Whigs than there is between the Whigs and the Radicals. Well, then, why should not the parties who have sympathy with each other join? Some years ago there were certain great reforms to be achieved which the Conservatives of all shades opposed, and the Liberals of all shades advocated; but these being achieved, a new state of things has arisen. The Radicals aim at still further changes. These the Whigs oppose, and so do the Conservatives. And it is our opinion that not long hence the Whigs, driven on by the great and increasing body of the Radicals, will be obliged to make common cause with the Conservatives to oppose radical innovations. There are, however, two things which will retard this movement for a time. First, the power of old traditions. The Whigs are traditional Liberals, and will hesitate before they openly join their traditional Conservative foes; and on the other side, the Conservatives, liberal as they may be, will remember their traditions, and hold back for a time from openly forming an alliance with men whom they have so long opposed; but the junction will come, we verily believe; and if a Reform Bill be urged through the House next session which shall extend the suffrage, and thereby strengthen the Radical force, the junction will be inevitable. But there is, secondly, the personal difficulty. A junction like this would of course bring such a number of aspirants for office that it would be impossible to satisfy them. When a party comes into power now, there are always more claimants than offices; but if two parties were to join, of course the claimants would be doubled in number. This consideration will necessarily retard this junction for a long time; but powerful as this objection is, it must give way if the Radical party continue to increase in numbers as it has done for the last ten years. Already it is so strong as to make a Whig Government almost impossible. Soon it will be stronger, and then the liberal Conservatives, hampered by the old Tories behind, and the Whigs distressed by the Radicals on their flank, will be compelled to join and form a strong *juste milieu* party.

THE PENSIONS.

In our last we hinted that the Conservatives can hang on to office until the end of April next, certain of their members may claim their pensions; and on referring to the Act of Parliament, we find that we were right. For, by the 4th and 5th William IV., cap. 24, it is enacted that the First Lord of the Treasury, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the President of the Board of Control, and the President of the Board of Trade, may receive pensions if they have held one or more of the said offices for a period of not less than two years in the whole, uninterruptedly, or at different times, provided that no more than four pensions shall be in existence or in force at the same time. The pension for these offices not to exceed two thousand pounds per annum.

The Chief Secretary for Ireland and Secretary at War must hold one or more of these offices for five years before a pension can be granted; and no more than two of these pensions can exist at the same time. The pension attached to these offices is not to exceed fourteen hundred a year.

The Joint Secretaries of the Treasury, First Secretary of the Admiralty, and Vice-Presidents of the Board of Trade, must hold these offices five years before they can be pensioned. The pension not to exceed twelve hundred a year; and only four pensions to be in existence at the same time.

The Under-Secretaries of State, Clerk of Ordnance, Secretary to the Admiralty, and Secretaries to the India Board, must have served ten years, and the pension is not to exceed one thousand a year; and only six such pensions can exist at the same time.

But in all these cases no pension can be granted, unless the claimant make a declaration that his income from other sources is inadequate to maintain his station in life. What the custom is as to this declaration, and how many pensioned officers of State there are now, we have no means of ascertaining—for these items of expenditure are not enumerated in the Estimates; but it is clear that if there are vacancies, Mr. Disraeli, Sir John Pakington, Mr. Henley, and Mr. Walpole will have a right to their pensions at the end of April next, if they choose to make the above declaration.

THE LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN.

On Friday evening, just as the House had opened, there was seen a novel procession crossing the lobby. It consisted of a short gentleman, clothed in scarlet gown, with a heavy S.S. collar round his neck, said to contain many pounds' weight of gold; a tall man, in black gown; another in Court dress, with sword by his side and in his hand a short staff, surmounted by a crown; another in curious costume, carrying a sword some six feet long; and still another, bearing in his arms, and not across his shoulder, a ponderous silver-gilt mace, which seemed to be as much as he could well carry. The gentleman that led this procession was the Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the others were the officers of the Corporation. My Lord Mayor, on due notice being given, marched into the House to the bar, heralded by the doorkeeper, who called out, "The Lord Mayor of the City of Dublin," and accompanied by the sergeant-at-arms. The business of my Lord Mayor there was to present a petition against the Police Bill above mentioned. He had come specially all the way from Dublin to oppose in established form this obnoxious measure. The mace and sword were left at the door, as such insignia of office are not allowed within the precincts of the House. It is many years ago since a Lord Mayor of Dublin claimed the privilege of presenting a petition at the bar of the House.

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 9.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

The Earl of Macclesfield stated that the Government had limited the question engaged in respect to the slave trade in the Cape and West Indies, but there was no intention of removing it from the Cape of Africa, where it had been very successful.

THE CUSTOMS.

Lord Grosvenor called attention to the unsatisfactory state of the law respecting the distribution of pilot houses; and

The Bishop of Exeter said a bill on the subject was under the consideration of the Ecclesiastical Council.

Lord Portman, during a short discussion on a point in the law of Clergy, said, that before the close of the session he hoped he should be able to introduce a bill on its subject, or at least suggest some mode of settling the question that would be satisfactory to all parties.

The Ecclesiastical Council's Bill was read a third time.

The report of amendments on the Oaths Bill was agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE TRAMWAY.

Mr. Cox moved for a motion that the cost of the purification of the river Thames by the authority of the metropolis should be borne by the Corporation of London and the metropolis ratepayers in equal proportion.

The motion was seconded by Lord George Thompson, and opposed by Mr. B. Stirling, who said that the House would not be justified in sanctioning such a motion, and that every member of both Houses metropolitans, and others, who had been from the Consolidated Fund for an object, would be obliged to answer upon their own constituency.

Sir G. Lewis called attention to the motion was an evasion of the orders of the House, under which the previous consent of the Crown was required, as well as a vote in a committee of supply. He recommended that the House should not sanction the motion, and that the Government should before the House some other proposition upon the subject.

The Speaker said that the motion, if adopted, would lead to no practical result, as it would be necessary to proceed in a committee of supply. The Government of the day, however, said he hoped the House would agree to the motion of Sir G. Lewis, as it was the intention of the Government to spend to the effect of a new motion for the purification of the Thames.

After some further discussion, Mr. Cox offered to withdraw his motion, but the motion was not carried.

TRADE MARKS.

Sir J. Threlkeld, who is second to the existing position and prospects of the Church of England, said the views expressed by some of her Majesty's leading divines, implied whether they proposed to fix a period for the formation of the House without a second reading of Parliament to adopt a measure in which all views shall be embodied.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he was not prepared to say, on the part of the Government, that it was their intention to introduce any measure during the session on the subject of church rates; but they did not diminish the hope of settling the question, and would take the earliest opportunity when Parliament assembled to ask its assent to a measure which they trusted might be accepted as a satisfactory solution of it.

TRADE MARKS.

In reply to Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. S. Fitzmaurice, in the name of the Government had been called to the important question of trade mark protection, in conjunction with other States, regarding marks of manufacture, and he was not without hope that a measure might be introduced upon the subject this session.

TRADE MARKS.

The House resolved itself into a committee of supply, when a long and important debate arose upon the estimate for education in Ireland, with several amendments on the second system, and the working of the system, both of which were very freely criticised.

This and other amendments having been agreed to, the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

Several bills were advanced a stage, and leave was given to introduce others.

In withdrawing his Government of India Bill, Lord Palmerston characterised it as the last legacy of the late Government.

Mr. L. King likewise withdrew the County Franchise Bill.

MONDAY, JULY 12.
HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ADMISSION OF JEWS INTO PARLIAMENT.

On the order of the day for considering the report of the reasons to be offered to the House of Commons for persisting in their Lordships' Amendments to the Oaths Bill.

Lord Grosvenor thought the policy of persisting in these reasons, after having passed Lord Lyndhurst's bill, permitting Jews to sit in Parliament, was very doubtful. It would seem as if their Lordships made a concession against their will; and the House of Commons might retort on them that the reasons required no reply, because they were urged against a course that had actually been adopted.

The Earl of Derby said that their Lordships had not changed their opinions on the propriety of admitting Jews to Parliament, but they had, for the sake of mediation, given a permissive authority to the other House to admit them. It was their Lordships' duty to express their reasons for dissenting from the original bill.

The Marquis of Lonsdale thought the course proposed most singular. With a bill on their table that was really intended to allow Jews to sit in Parliament, they were asked to agree to reasons why they ought not to be allowed to sit there.

Lord Malmesbury was anxious that the views of the Government on this subject should not be mistaken; if there had been any concession, it had been made to a political necessity, not a moral conviction. A reply to the House of Commons was required; it had been drawn up by a majority of their Lordships' House; and he thought it unusual in a minority to object to reasons so approved.

After some further discussion, the reasons were agreed to, with some amendments and omissions proposed by Lord Derby.

The Earl of Lyndhurst moved the third reading of the Jew Bill. Lord Grosvenor divided the House against the motion; there appeared—Contents, 33; non-contents, 12. The bill therefore passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE MASSACRE AT JERUSALEM.

In reply to Mr. Liddell, Mr. S. Fitzmaurice said the only information the Government had received respecting the tragedy at Jerusalem was from the telegram, the truth of which they had no reason to doubt, and that immediately on the receipt of the intelligence Lord Malmesbury had forwarded instructions to our commanders on the spot to take every means in their power to bring the perpetrators to justice.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

On the motion for going again into a committee of supply, Mr. Hunt called attention to the slave trade, which, he observed, was never in a state of greater activity than at the present moment in spite of our armed cruisers. It had long ago been argued that it was impossible for this country, so long as high prices were paid in any part of the world for African slaves, to suppress the trade; and this conclusion, drawn from reasoning, had been confirmed by practical experience. Our system had failed; we had wasted our money and resources, and entailed consequences frightful to contemplate. He drew a faithful picture of the horrors of the middle passage, in which the mortality of the negroes was calculated at from 25 to 33 per cent., and for this result he held the House responsible. Another disastrous consequence of the system was that it had been dragging this country to the verge of hostility with two maritime States, with which it was our interest to remain on terms of amity. Under these circumstances, he moved a resolution, "That it is expedient to discontinue the practice of authorising Her Majesty's ships to visit and search vessels under foreign flags, with a view of suppressing the traffic in slaves."

Mr. CARDWELL observed that this was not a motion to withdraw our African squadron, but to pass a resolution, and so to fetter the hands of the Government. Mr. Hunt had not noticed the resolution of the House of Lords, that the squadron was not to be ineffective, but was effective, and that its removal would mutilate a present and now flourishing commerce in Africa. It had been argued that it was hopeless to put down the slave trade with Brazil; but he had nevertheless prevailed, and the trade with Brazil had been wound up. The squadron had suppressed the slave trade along 1,600 miles of the African coast, while a legitimate trade had sprung up in native horses, which experienced witnesses had testified must inevitably be extinguished if the squadron were removed. He hoped, therefore, that the House would not give its sanction to a retrograde policy, which would be prejudicial to the interests of humanity and derogatory to our honour.

Mr. S. FITZMAURICE said he should ask the House to express a strong dissent from the resolution. Mr. Hunt had put the question upon two issues: first, whether our policy had been successful or unsuccessful; and, secondly, whether particular circumstances did not render that policy at

not advisable. As to the first, he had come to a conclusion totally at variance with that of Mr. Hutt. In stating the facts upon which he based his opinion, he showed the enormous increase which had taken place in exports from Africa, not merely in palm oil, but in cotton, expressing a belief that, before many years, we should receive a most important article from the West Coast of Africa. With regard to the second, he explained that neither with respect to France, nor to the United States, was there any prospect of difficulties to prevent our persevering in that just and humane policy which we had pursued for so many years.

Mr. M. GIBSON said he was glad that the practice of visiting American vessels in the Cuban waters had been given up, and he thought that the Government was, to a certain extent, carrying out the principle of Mr. Hutt's motion, which only sought to discontinue the practice of visiting and boarding vessels under foreign flags. We were paying, he observed, a large sum of money to keep up a maritime police, which was ineffectual, since no vessels were obtained, and it was impossible to maintain an effective patrol of the extensive coast of Africa. Cuba got as many slaves as she could hold, in order to allow a margin for the negroes our cruisers captured, more were shipped from Africa; the middle passage was shortened more and more, and our squadron indicated a great increase of disease and mortality.

Mr. GIBSON admitted that the real question was, whether the system had been successful or unsuccessful. Mr. Hutt said it had been an entire failure. Mr. GIBSON said that there was good evidence to the contrary.

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Lord GRANVILLE said that as the Bill came before them with all the authority of the Government, which was engaged in a most difficult task, he should not oppose it in any spirit of party, but cordially support the second reading.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH offered some objections to the Bill, which, he said, even had he been still a minister of the Crown, he should not have proposed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE THAMES.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill for the purification of the Thames. This object was, he maintained, strictly of local character. The Government, therefore, proposed to assign its execution to local authorities, and require the payment of its cost from local resources. For this purpose they intended to appeal to the municipal principle as organised in the Metropolitan Board of Works. In the present bill, a parliamentary authority would be given to the board to levy for forty years a rate of threepence in the pound over the whole metropolitan district. This rate was computed to return an income of £140,000 per annum. The expenses of the drainage work, for which plans had already been prepared by the board, were estimated at three millions sterling. This amount would be raised, under the provisions of the bill, upon a government guarantee, at 4 per cent., and the product of the rate was expected to provide both for the present payment of interest and the gradual extinction of the principal debt. Having thus provided the board with funds, the Government intended to leave the execution of the work entirely in their hands.

Mr. ROBERTS raised an objection on the point of form. The bill, he observed, included provisions relating to advances of public money, and granting powers of taxation. No measure of this description could be introduced into the House except in pursuance of a resolution passed in a committee of the whole House.

Considerable discussion ensued on this point. Ultimately a suggestion, thrown out by Lord PALMERSTON, was adopted, and all the money clauses, excepted from the bill, with a view to their introduction at a later stage, and after the observance of all necessary formalities.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE MAP OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

In consequence of the demand for the above Map very far exceeding the expectations that had been formed, it has been found impossible to issue it with the present number of the "Illustrated Times." The publication of it, therefore, is postponed till Saturday next, on which day a sufficient number of copies will be in the hands of the trade to prevent any disappointment to the public.

During the month of August, a highly finished Engraving, on a large scale, of the celebrated Picture, by Sir Edwin Landseer, R.A., in the collection of the Earl of Ellesmere, entitled

THE RETURN FROM HAWKING.

will be issued in connection with the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

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A New Illustrated Weekly Magazine for family reading, by the writers and artists of the "Illustrated Times," amusing in tone, varied in character, rich in illustration, elegant in appearance, and economical in price. Nos. 1 to 12, price One Penny each, are now ready, and may be obtained of all the Agents of the "Illustrated Times."

No. 13 will be published on Monday next for the following Saturday. Parts I. and II. of the "Welcome Guest," containing Five and Four Weekly Numbers respectively, embracing numerous Tales, Sketches, and Articles of an amusing character, including "Twice Round the Clock, or the Hours of the Day and Night in London," by George Augustus Sala; and illustrated with very numerous Engravings, are now ready, Price 6d. and 5d. each.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1858.

HOME TOPICS.

HAVING discussed, elsewhere, the bearings of the most important piece of foreign news which has lately reached this country, we shall now notice such points of more domestic interest as the waning session affords. More political excitement there is none, to gratify or to vex anybody.

We presume that, to begin with, the Jew question may be considered settled. Lord John Russell is evidently only half pleased with the way the Lords have compromised it. He would have preferred forcing the Jews in, by the mere will of the House of Commons, without the reservations and restrictions by which the Lords have qualified their action in the matter. We are very glad that he has been disappointed. We have said, indeed, often enough, that we do not think a man's religious conviction a proper ground for his exclusion from a political assembly. But we can perfectly understand that everybody may not agree with this; and, therefore, we not only view the Lords' opposition with tenderness, but we should not have supported any scheme for dispensing with the Lords' power of opposition if they had not withdrawn it. The Whig Minister thinks otherwise. He would willingly have pushed matters so far as to set the House of Commons in opposition to the Courts of Law; and he evidently thinks that in such a conjuncture the House would have the people on its side. He was never more mistaken in his life, not even when he declared for "finality." There is a strong jealousy of the House of Commons, and a disposition to keep it in check in the country at present, and any attempt to make it more powerful on its own part would result in an agitation for its reform, compared with which, the movement of 1830-32 was mild and moderate. Looking on Lord John's career as virtually over, we cannot but regret the exhibitions which mark the close of his public life.

On the whole, we are glad that the Jews will secure this right of entry to the House of Commons; because, in this age, and considering who are in the House, a religious ground of exclusion is a cruel and hypocritical sham. But, justice once done, as a matter of principle, it will still remain a question of expediency how many Jews ought to be elected. And here it is quite consistent for us to say that we are by no means anxious to see many of them in, and that, *ceteris paribus*, we should always give our vote to an Englishman in preference. But this is a question for the constituency of each place. A word to the Jews themselves, and we have done with the subject.

Let them show their gratitude to the people of England, by looking at the questions which come before them in the Commons with English eyes. A man may reside here, as a foreigner, and nobody cares what his sympathies are in questions of foreign politics. But when he enters our Parliament, he is pledged to our nationality; and his conduct in all that concerns it, will be carefully watched.

The vote of the Commons last Tuesday, docking off Mr. Otto Mundler's salary, as traveller to buy pictures for Britain, is only important as showing how much dissatisfaction is felt with the relations existing in this country between Government and Art. We have often indicated our respect for the share taken by Art in national education. But in everything relating to its administration, Art seems very unlucky. We have no place for our best national pictures at all worthy of them; and we are shut out from part of the National Gallery by an Academy, which, having resources of its own, does not avail itself of those to find a place for its Exhibition. Government promises a measure to meet these difficulties. Meanwhile, we should warn our readers that more personal motives have a great deal to do with the agitation on both sides of Art questions, and that Art is very liable to be made the subject of jobbery. By the way, how comes it that our Art agents and public servants are so frequently Germans? Can the country of Reynolds not produce a commissaire? We suspect that this consideration, and something to do with the late division, and we add, that the good which an Academy does to Art, by keeping up its social dignity, is somewhat neutralised by the tendency such an institution has to encourage social servility and Court dependence. Academies develop polite mediocrity, and polite mediocrity rising from a humble sphere, is especially apt to have its head turned by Royal Highnesses.

Another event of a very different nature has made more stir in the town. We allude to the extraordinary and appalling accident in the fireworks establishment on the south side of the Thames. Viewed simply as an accident, it has been far more fearful than anything London has witnessed for years. But how extraordinary does it seem that such a thing should be possible in a city like this? that there should be large establishments quite unwatched—subject to no regulations—yet liable at any moment to destroy human life to the extent of something like a day's bombardment? The very horror of the result scarcely destroys the ludicrous feeling with which one reads of "the red fox" taking light "in the back-kitchen." A more ghastly yet absurd picture—for it is quite Hogarthian in its strange colours—was never presented to us. Here is a whole neighbourhood living quietly, with an establishment in the middle of it, where the manufacture of every infernal combination of nitre, sulphur, saltpetre, &c., that the wit of man can devise, goes on as tranquilly as (and apparently with little more extra caution than) the routine of a cook-shop. Never was there such an illustration of the true Cockney recklessness of danger. Steamers have blown up; houses have tumbled down; fires have broken out; but this accident is at once more terrible, shameful, and wonderful, than any we remember. Its first result will be a demand on the charity of the public in favour of helpless sufferers; its second, we trust, some immediate provision that no such manufactory shall be allowed to exist within our towns, or anywhere outside them, except under inspection and regulations. Intramural internment was had enough; but intramural massacre of this kind is at once stupid and shameful.

THE FERRY.

FROM A PICTURE BY GEORGE DODGSON.

It has been said (by Frenchmen, of course) that a landscape without water is like a drawing-room without looking-glasses. This upholsterer's comparison is, nevertheless, a good one. No amount of foliage or herbage can give that freshness to a landscape which is at once insured by the introduction of the smallest pool or the narrowest stream—for that which is true in Nature is also true in Art: the latter, when properly understood, being in fact a condensation of the former. Mr. Dodgson's picture, which is, so to speak, amphibious—being half-water, half-land—is certainly not deficient in "looking-glasses," and it is one of the most vivid and life-like pictures to be found in the Exhibition of the Society of Artists in Water Colours. It belongs to a class of paintings which have been popular in England ever since there has been anything like a School of Art in this country, but which in former times, and in other countries, had really no existence.

In the days of the old masters, historical and religious painters had nothing to do with landscapes—the little, stunted landscapes at the back of Raphael's Madonna pictures being exceptions which very evidently prove the rule. If Poussin and Claude introduced figures into their landscapes, they did so merely to satisfy a strange notion which then prevailed, to the effect that it was impossible the representation of mere scenery could excite any sympathy in the breast of the spectator, except through the medium of some more or less living personages distributed among the trees or beneath the porticoes of the inevitable temples. The mixed style—that is to say, the natural style—was certainly originated by the English, who, thanks to the absence of a regularly constituted Academy, with its professors of obsolescence and pedantry, have long been in the habit of painting what actually passed before their eyes; and thus, without suspecting it themselves, have created that which abroad passes for "a new school."

GOING TO MARKET.

FROM A PICTURE BY WALTER GOODALL.

WHAT an agreeable thing going to market must be when mountain and rivers have to be crossed, when the wife has a child to carry in her arms, and the husband a heifer to pull by the horns! But the picturesque is not always pleasant; in fact, it is generally quite the contrary. Rags and ruins are picturesque; so are lofty crags and rapid impassable streams; and so is the scene in Mr. Goodall's picture. But we cannot without a pang think of the life that trouserless Scotchman has to lead; nor can we avoid sympathising with the well-favoured Scotchwoman (Scotch "lassie," we believe, is the name given to them by their own countrymen), who is in the net of taking an involuntary foot-bath in company with the heifer; nor can we refuse our pity even to the heifer itself. Perhaps the only individual of the group who can be envied is the baby, for the baby is being carried. But in time it will grow up, and will have itself to go to market, when it will be its sad lot to cross high mountains and deep streams, pulling heifers by the horns or carrying babies!

RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE.—A letter in "Le Courrier Mercantile," of Genoa states that a Jew of Bologna, Signor Morini, had his house invaded by fanatics of the holy office, and his young son carried off forcibly to the Dominican convent. A servant girl had baptised the boy without the father's consent or knowledge, and the child is lost to him now. He has no reason.

OUR FRENCH FRIENDS.—The "Gazette de France" contains some remarks on Indian matters, of which the following is a specimen:—"After the double exhibition of England's impotency in the Crimea and in India, the pretension of our neighbours to remain sovereign masters of the commercial destinies of nations, and to prevent France from expanding, is simply ridiculous."

TUESDAY, JULY 13.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ANOTHER OFFICIAL BLUNDER.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE asked if the report was correct that when the clothing supplied to the 100th Regiment on its return from Canada was found it was quite useless, being without buttons?

VISCOUNT HARRINGE explained that some delay had occurred in delivering the clothing at Shorncliffe by the intervention of a Sunday and the neglect of some parties, non-official, employed as carriers. The Noble Viscount alluding to the alleged deficiency of buttons, but stated that the Government was now engaged in re-organising the clothing department of the army, and he had no doubt the result would be a great improvement in the system of supply.

CHURCH-RATES.

Lord PORTMAN, in consequence of the announcement made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the Government intends to introduce a bill next session on the subject of church-rates, stated that he should not propose the measure he had contemplated, but he was quite ready to communicate the outline of his plan to the head of the Government.

The Earl of DERRY hoped the announcement made by the Government would not deter Lord Portman from laying his bill on the table.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE OATHS BILL.

Lord J. RUSSELL explained the course he proposed to pursue with relation to the Oaths Bill and to another bill which was expected from the House of Lords. He observed the course adopted by the other House was singularly inconsistent, and placed the House of Commons in some difficulty. He could not understand the consistency of the House of Lords in declaring that there was a moral unfitness on the part of the Jews to take part in British legislation, and, at the same time, sending down to that House a bill authorising them to take such part in it if a majority of the House allowed them to do so, by omitting the words in the oath, "On the true faith of a Christian." He should propose, however, that the House should waive its opposition, as it was no longer a question of principle.

THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

The report of the committee of supply having been brought up, on the resolution granting £16,174 for the National Gallery,

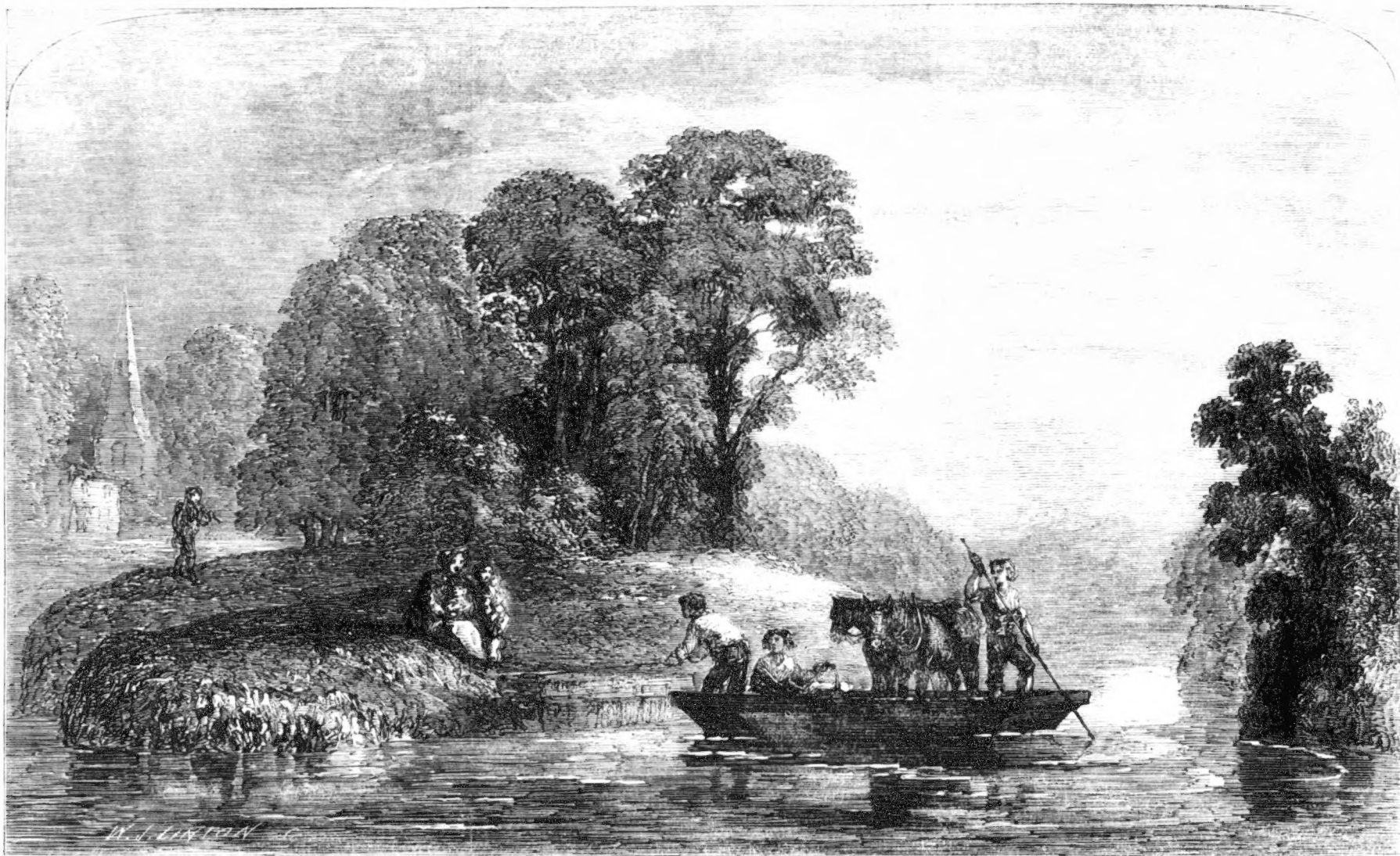
Lord ELCHO called attention to the report of the commission on the site of the National Gallery, and moved the reduction of the vote by £300, the salary of the travelling agent, leaving the travelling expenses untouched.

A discussion ensued, in which the subjects of the site of the National Gallery, the removal of the Royal Academy, and the merits of Mr. Otto Mundler, the travelling agent, were canvassed.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER suggested that the reduction of the vote would be a harsh proceeding towards the individual, and undertook, on the part of the Government, that the whole establishment of the National Gallery should undergo investigation.

On a division, however, Lord Elcho's amendment of the resolution was carried by 128 to 110.

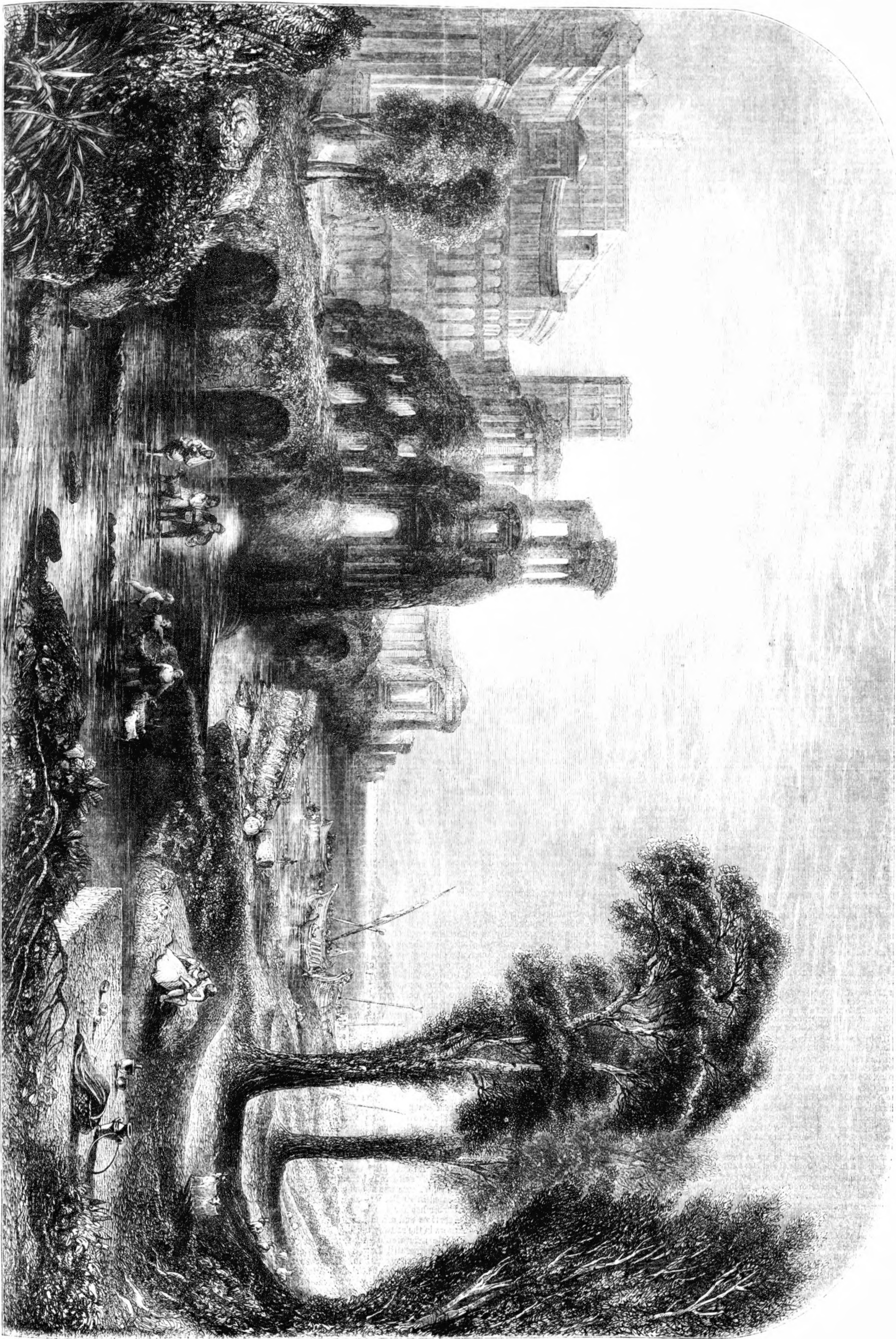
THE SPECIAL SERVICES OF THE CHURCH.



THE FERRY.—(FROM A PICTURE BY G. DODGSON, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.)



GOING TO MARKET.—(FROM A PICTURE BY WALTER GOODALL, IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.)



THE BATHS OF CALIGULA.—(FROM A PICTURE BY J. W. T. 1858, IN THE COLLECTION AT MARRINGTON HOUSE.)

THE BATHS OF CALIGULA.

FROM A PICTURE BY J. W. M. TURNER, IN THE COLLECTION AT MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

Mr. Ruskin, who, if he cannot be said to have discovered Turner, has at all events pointed out a host of beauties in his works, to which the British public, as well as the great majority of British critics, were previously quite insensible—Mr. Ruskin, who has illustrated Turner in words as Turner illustrated Byron in lines and colours, has given in his "Notes on the Turner Collection," a handbook which must always be referred to by those who would speak of any one of those wonderful, and for the most part beautiful, compositions with which the great colourist has endowed the English nation. But still, what can be said of Turner that has not already been felt by those who have seen his delicate forms and his gorgeous colouring? And if those tints tell not of his surpassing genius, what can mere words say, even though they be the words of Mr. Ruskin himself, who can describe better than nine-tenths of our artists can paint? No. Mr. Ruskin's praise of Turner is valuable, because it is true, and because any one who has eyes and a heart can verify it by walking to Marlborough House with the "Notes" in his hand, and judging for himself whether the beauties that Mr. Ruskin discovers in the pictures, do or do not exist. Age usually makes men prosaic; and men as they advance in years, whatever qualities they may gain, generally lose what Mr. Ruskin calls (very properly) their "impressibility." But in Turner the contrary seems to have been the case. "As a boy," says his enthusiastic and deep-discerning critic, "we find him at work, with heavy hand and unperverted eye, on the dusty Clapham Common Road; but as a man, in middle life, wandering in dreams in the Italian twilight. As a boy we find him alternately satirical and compassionate; all-observant of human action, sorrow and weakness; curious of fishermen's and fishermen's wives' quarrels; watchful of Jason's toadstool over the dry bones to the serpent's den. But as the man in middle life he mokes no more; he fears, he weeps, he mopes; his fore-grounds now are covered with flowers; the dust and the dry dead bones are all passed by; the sky is calm and clear; the rack of the clouds and rending of the salt winds are forgotten. His whole soul is set to watch the wreaths of mist among the foldings of the hills, and listen to the lapse of the river waves in their fairest gliding." This power of recalling the feelings of youth at an advanced period of life, is, indeed, one of the distinctive marks of genius of all kinds; and Coleridge has shown how it may be made the test of genius, as compared with talent in poetry and in literature generally.

The works of Turner are assigned by Mr. Ruskin to four periods, during each of which the painter wrought with a different aim or with different powers.

The first period is that in which he laboured as a student, "annotating successively the works of the various masters who excelled in the qualities he desired to attain himself." In his second period, he worked on the principles which he had discovered during his student-ship without imitating any one, but, nevertheless, working in accordance with the theories of art generally accepted at that time. In his third period, he had overcome theories of art altogether, and "re-produced the simple impressions he received from nature, associating them with his own deepest feelings." During his last period, the artist's powers had begun to fail, but his works still exhibit that marvellous knowledge of colour, to which, after all, he owes most of his celebrity, for every one can see colour, whereas it is not given to all to appreciate poetry, and the highest forms of beauty. It is to Turner's last period that the picture of which we this day publish an engraving belongs. Turner's designs lose perhaps less in the hands of a skilful engraver than those of any other great painter; but, after all, line and shadow cannot reproduce colour, and those who wish to see the work in all its beauty, must not be content to look at our wood-cut version of it, but must go to Marlborough House and behold it in the midst of that admirable collection which the painter bequeathed so nobly to his unappreciative countrymen. The artist has conferred a boon on the nation, and the nation certainly owes it to his memory to study the gift nestowed upon it. "I trust," says Mr. Ruskin, speaking of Turner's bequest, "that the privilege which the nation owes to that death of studying in detail the works it once despised, may diffuse the knowledge of art widely enough to prevent the recurrence in other cases of so great an injustice."

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

FROM HELSINGFORS, in Finland (Russia), news has arrived that, on the 18th ult., a fire almost entirely destroyed the shipping quarter.

THE BISHOP OF CHESTER will hold his next ordination at Chester, on Sunday, the 19th day of September.

EVERY REGIMENT in the Prussian army is to be provided with rifle-musket of a new and improved description before the end of the year.

MADAME FREZZOLINI has returned to Europe from America; so also, from South America, has Madame Lorini, known in her maiden days in London as Mademoiselle Vera.

THE PRINCIPAL EDITOR of the "Presse" is appointed to a place of confidence in the new Ministry of which the Prince Napoleon is the head.

A MANUFACTURER in the south of France advertises a preparation which he calls "Eau de Noblesse," and declares that it makes the hair always preserve an honourable direction, and gives to the person who uses it an air of distinction and supremacy.

MR. RAREY has released his pupils from their bond of secrecy, in consequence of the publication in England of his treatise on horse-taming.

A TRANSLATION of the "Correspondence of Napoleon I.," of which the French Government has commenced the publication at the national expense, is shortly to appear in London, by arrangement with certain publishers. This correspondence will occupy several large volumes.

MRS. CHISHOLM, to whom the whole of the Australian colonies are under such deep obligations, is reported, in the "Melbourne Argus" of May 13, to be dangerously ill.

AS MAJOR HAMILTON, of the Hornet, Chichester, late of the 10th Foot, was rowing his children, a boy and girl, about Binstead, Isle of Wight, last week, the little boat in which he was rowing was upset by the children climbing on the gunwale, and all were immersed in the water. The major was drowned, but the children were saved.

A HUNDRED AND ELEVEN THOUSAND POUNDS is to be voted this year for the new Westminster bridge.

THE SHAKESPEARE AUTOGRAPH is enshrined in the British Museum. It lies on velvet, in a sloping mahogany case, with a plate glass before it, and curtains of blue silk to protect it from too strong a light.

FOUR COLOSSAL CORCHANT LIONS are to be placed on the radial pedestals of the Nelson Column, in Trafalgar Square, at a cost of £5,000.

THE GOVERNMENT have resolved to proceed with the erection of Victoria Hospital, at Netley, on the banks of Southampton Water.

MR. DISRAELI is INVITED to BELFAST, where it is expected he will arrive about the middle or latter end of August, and a grand banquet is to be given in his honour.

M. JULES JANIN is about to retire from the post he has for so many years occupied in the "Journal des Débats."

MR. W. CAVE THOMAS, well known by his fresco designs, has been nominated to succeed Mr. George Schaff, as Professor of Pictorial Art at the Queen's College, London.

DEATH has DEPRIVED MR. MACREADY, the celebrated tragedian, of his only living child, a daughter, just entering into womanhood.

LONDON is TO BE ENTICED WITH TELEGRAPHIC WIRES from the house-top, in the style of Paris.

A TREMENDOUS THUNDERSTORM broke over Westminster last week. The lightning struck a public-house, which, with three neighbouring cottages, was entirely destroyed.

SEVENTY FATAL CASES OF CHOLERA are said to have occurred at St. Petersburg.

THE HON. MR. ROOSEVELT is mentioned in the American journals as the probable successor of Mr. Dallas, at St. James's. Mr. Roosevelt is brother-in-law of Sir W. Gore Ouseley, the British Minister accredited to the Central American Republics.

SIR ALAN M'NAB, so well known in connection with Canadian politics, is to be the first Governor of New Caledonia.

DR. STODOL, one of the Senior Fellows of Trinity College, Dublin, has committed suicide by poisoning himself with a quantity of his own garden of his brother's house at Castleknock. He had been for some time in a depressed condition.

THE REV. J. E. GOOD and SOPHIA LAVINA GOOD, his wife, are accepted as claimants for one of the bachelors to be presented at Brompton, in July, 1859, as a reward for conjugal fidelity. Mr. Good married in June, 1857, and is incumbent of one of the churches at New South Wales, New South.

MR. GEORGE THOMPSON, formerly representative in Parliament of the Tower Hamlets, has just returned to England from India, in indifferent health, after an absence of two years and a half.

A HAIRDRESSER on THE BOULEVARD MONTMARTRE, PARIS, has assumed for himself and assistants the costume of Fieffo, and in that theatrical guise they pursue their honourable calling.

UPWARDS OF 2,000 GUINEAS "added money" is announced to be given at the next race meeting at Doncaster.

THE PROPRIETOR of THE "DISCUSSION FORUM," where, according to M. de la Guéronnière, "assassination was elevated to a doctrine," has been declared bankrupt.

SIR JOHN YARLES BUTLER is to be raised to the peerage under the title of Earl of Clifton-Ferrers. The second title will probably be Viscount Lupton.

ALEXANDER JACOB, of harmonium reputation, has been cast in £1,000 damages by the real inventor, a working mechanic, named Deblain. He has been further condemned to insert this decision in certain French and foreign newspapers.

THE MAYOR of MELBOURNE, Mr. John Thomas Smith, has been deputed by the Melbourne Corporation to proceed to England and present to the Queen a congratulatory address on the marriage of the Princess Royal.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE has issued an address to the electors of Stamford in anticipation of the resignation of Mr. Inglis, the present Lord Advocate, who has become the Lord Justice-Clerk of Scotland. Sir Stafford is a supporter of Lord Derby's Government.

A "DIRTY BOX" was recently discovered in Lucknow, at a place where treasure was supposed to be concealed. The dirty box contained jewels valued at £10,000.

THE NUMBER of LETTER CARRIERS is to be increased, in consequence of the severe duties imposed upon them by recent arrangements for facilitating the delivery of letters.

SICK AND WOUNDED TROOPS, to the number of nearly 100 men of all ranks, and of various regiments now serving in India, together with thirteen women and twenty children, arrived last week at Chatham Hospital. They were brought home by the Arago, which left Calcutta on the 13th of April.

THE MANAGERS of THE ROYAL INSTITUTION have appointed Professor Richard Owen to be Fullerian Professor of Zoology.

A YOUNG ENGLISHMAN fell in love with and recently married Juan Fernandez, a celebrated bull-fighter at Madrid.

A LADY was fined 5s., and 5s. costs, this week, for having stepped out of a train on the Crystal Palace line while the carriages were yet in motion.

A "STEAM BOILER ASSURANCE COMPANY" has been established at Manchester. Strangely enough, the company was suggested by Mr. Forsyth, whose death by a boiler explosion was announced last week.

THE LATE MR. JOHN SHAKESPEARE has bequeathed by his will the noble sum of £2,500 to carry out the work (set on foot by him during his lifetime) of restoring the birthplace of Shakespeare at Stratford-on-Avon to the condition in which it was during the lifetime of the poet. He has also bequeathed a sum of £20 a year in perpetuity towards the same object.

LORD DERRY has conferred a pension of £100 a-year on the widow of John Borton, the sculptor.

MAHOGANY SHIPS are the latest novelties in naval architecture. It is said that Honduras mahogany is for most purposes quite equal to oak, which is scarce and dear; and the captain of a mahogany ship built at Bordeaux gives her an excellent character.

THE VACCINATION does not seem to have agreed with the French army. In the 10th regiment of Artillery, at Toulouse, so many men have been laid up in consequence, that the Emperor has sent down a physician, Dr. Larry, to see about it.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

ANOTHER phase of the Church war in Belgravia has been brought before the public. The churchwardens of St. Barnabas, strong in their upholding of the reverend Alfred Poole, sharply and astutely requested the Bishop of London to assign his reason for the revocation of Mr. Poole's license, and when the reasons were received, would have argued the point, but that the Bishop declined to enter into the controversy. The matter had been referred to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who supported the Bishop's views, and so far the question is at an end, threats of appeal to a higher tribunal being held out. On the other side, a large public meeting of the anti-Puseyites has been held in the grounds of the Pavilion, Sloane Street, for the purpose of memorialising the Government for the suppression of the practice of confession, now attempted to be introduced into the Church of England. This open air meeting was most largely attended, (the numbers are so variously stated that it is impossible to gather exact statistics), and principally by members of the middle classes, arguing favourably for the interest taken in the subject. The chair was taken by Colonel Vereker, and among the speakers were Mr. Paul Fosskett, the great gun of Brighton Protestantism, and Mr. Westerton, the disinterested bookseller of Knightsbridge. A spirit of unanimity characterised the meeting, there were no interruptions (where was Captain Atherley, with his wonderful lamp?) and the requisite resolutions were carried *nem. con.*

Another important public meeting was that held on Monday afternoon at Peck's Coffee House, for the purpose of enlisting the sympathies and assistance of the newspaper press with the objects sought to be attained by the Association for the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge, specially in connection with the abolition of the paper duty. Various gentlemen connected with the cheap press addressed the meeting, (a spirited, telling, and clever speech by Mr. Edward Levy, of the "Daily Telegraph," deserves especial notice), and, by calling the attention of the press world to the benefits which would accrue, not only to society in general, but to the members of the fourth estate in particular, much good was done. The only opposition came from Mr. H. G. Bohn, the publisher, who feared, oddly enough, that the repeal of the paper duties would injure the export publishing trade. This objection was combated successfully by Mr. Baxter Langley, of the "Morning Star," and Mr. Fowler, of the "Standard," who referred to Mr. Routledge, who was present, to corroborate, if he could, Mr. Bohn's views; but Mr. Routledge declining, the resolution, pledging the meeting to assist in obtaining the repeal of the obnoxious impost, was carried. Mr. Milner Gibson, that staunch foe to all taxes on knowledge, was in the chair.

Mr. Barber, the transported solicitor, has now, as everybody knows, obtained a favourable report from his parliamentary committee, and awaits compensation at the hands of Government. Cruelties such as were practised upon him can scarcely be believed, but read like fragments of old torture-stories among the Red Indians. It is well that your readers should know that Mr. Barber's committee was obtained, not by consent, but in spite of the present Government, who may probably endeavour to make political capital out of it, as they have already been complimented upon their liberality and freedom from prejudice by some of the daily and weekly press. There was at one period a chance of the whole Ministry being defeated *in re Barber*—a nice question to go to the country upon. Mr. Barber has for the last few years been fortunate in securing the active services and sound judgment of Mr. E. H. Thomas, a gentleman well known in the railway world, without whose valuable assistance the unfortunate man would probably never have obtained his certificate from the Incorporated Law Society, his committee, and the chance of fair and liberal compensation. His case must undoubtedly lead to the establishment of a Court of Criminal Appeal.

It is not probable that the "swells" will endeavour to renew their Cremorne fête: they must have been thoroughly sickened last Friday. Daily papers have told you all that actually passed in that scene of sloppiness and damp, but none but those who were present can conceive the utter ghastliness of the whole affair. Everybody seemed out of place. The comic singers wanted the applauding knockings of the "goes" on the table, and sang sheepishly and without spirit. The

masters of the ceremonies, feeling that they were being "guyed" by the company, instead of respectfully looked up to as their normal position, longed to tear the silver rosettes from their coats and hide themselves in the reeking shrubberies. The ladies could not bring themselves to dance in their bonnets, or with the gentlemen in their hats. The waiters felt that they had missed the substance penny for the shadow sixpence; a gloom was on every one, and a sense of weariness and oppression. A funny skit upon the lady patronesses' programme was in circulation, and the regular frequenters of the gardens had arranged for a great simultaneous festival at Vauxhall, but the weather put an end to this, and the demonstration intended to be made by the "roughs of the Metropolis."

Mr. Rarey seems to have made rather a mess of it. All that he taught his ten guinea subscribers may now be learnt, in his own language, in a sixpenny book, nay in a penny pamphlet; and he now frees his subscribers from the penalty hitherto imposed on their betrayal of the secret. I confess, under such circumstances, I shall look upon my ten guineas as a bad investment!

Quite an array of high-class examples of art manufacture, in the shape of some magnificent pieces of silver plate, is to be seen during the next few days at Mr. C. F. Hancock's, in Bruton Street.

There are a couple of cups to be run for at Goodwood, worked up in high relief, in a masterly style. On the one is the battle of Alexander and Darius, and on the other the battle of Hannibal and Scipio, both from Le Brun's grand pictures. The figure of Alexander, advancing in the full impulse of a charge, and pushing his way through the throng of combatants, on to where Darius, aloft in his chariot, throwing down his useless bow, turns his horses to flee, is full of animation and vigour. The confusion of the battle, the triumph, and the defeat; the chariot and the elephants, the spears of the advancing hosts, as they come up in serried ranks, the *malice* of combatants, the wounded and the dying, all the majesty and terrors of war, are elaborated in a style which is in no respect inferior to the most lauded of mediæval art. Another elegant work is the testimonial presented to Major-General Hall, by the officers of the 1st Life Guards, consisting of a column ornamented with trophies of arms from which spring the colours of the regiment. On the summit is a figure of Fame, and around the base are three highly characteristic equestrian figures, representing troopers of the period of the Restoration of Hanoverian George's, and of the present day. Another interesting object is the cup presented by Napoleon III. to the Royal Yacht Club. This is a tankard, surmounted by an equestrian group of Lion Hunting in Algeria.

If last week I had to record the death of a monthly magazine, the "Train," which lived for two years, I have now to chronicle the birth of a new monthly magazine, which is the organ of Mr. Robertson Gladstone and the financial reform party of Liverpool. It is called the "Financial Reformer," and is devoted to articles attacking the wasteful expenditure, lax management, and general jobbery and inefficiency of Government. There is, of necessity, a sameness in the different papers, and a number of details, which make it rather heavy reading to those who do not feel an interest in the importance of the subjects treated. It seems honest and well-conducted, and ought, in its peculiar sphere, to work a great deal of good. I believe that in the leading article, "Breaches-Pocket Principle," which exhausts in an earnest, yet humorous manner, all that can be said against the financial reformers, I recognise the hand of Mr. Hollingshead, whose clever, trenchant style of treating commercial subjects in "Household Words" and other periodicals, is rapidly making him a name.

The "Leader" has now for the last two numbers passed into the hands of a small party of gentlemen, who will enlarge it, and turn it into a special city organ. The present editor is Mr. F. G. Tomlins, of the "Morning Advertiser."

London cannot boast of its comic publications. It has one, indeed, with a large circulation and a conventional reputation, employing one very clever man, several very respectable mediocrities, the best social caricaturist ever known, and one of the best draughtsmen of the day. By its woodcuts, and by the contributions of the one gentleman I have alluded to, it lives prosperously and well, and is likely to live. There have been many attempts at opposition, every one of which has failed, though in each case I can remember there was five times more red fun and genuine wit than in the original publication. But they were written principally by young men, who reflected but little or not at all on the consequences of their temerity, and who lampooned, satirised, and jeered at persons and things hitherto thought beyond the pale of such attacks; and while they convulsed some hundred brethren of the craft with their stinging hits, left the esoteric world in utter darkness as to their meaning. As I have said before, however, all these publications teemed with wit and talent: it was reserved for the month of July in the year '58 to produce the *crème de la crème* of comic writing. This is a magazine called "Quix," which appears to be a bad cross between the defunct "Satirist" and the "Random Readings" of the penny family journals. Some notion of its fun may be gathered when I tell you that it professes to give a report of a meeting of literary men, at which were present "Mr. Charles Dickens (author of 'Who sold Curds?'), Mr. Breakpeace Thackaway (author of 'A Van at a Fair'), Mr. Luke Citron, Mr. Shirlley Snooks, &c.!" The woodcuts I recognise as old blocks from the "Man in the Moon," and some of the personalities are spiced with a very questionable allusion.

Lady Bulwer Lytton's troubles are to be brought to an "amicable arrangement." What on earth does that mean? A rigid abstinence from pen and ink should form part of the conditions, for the public's sake.

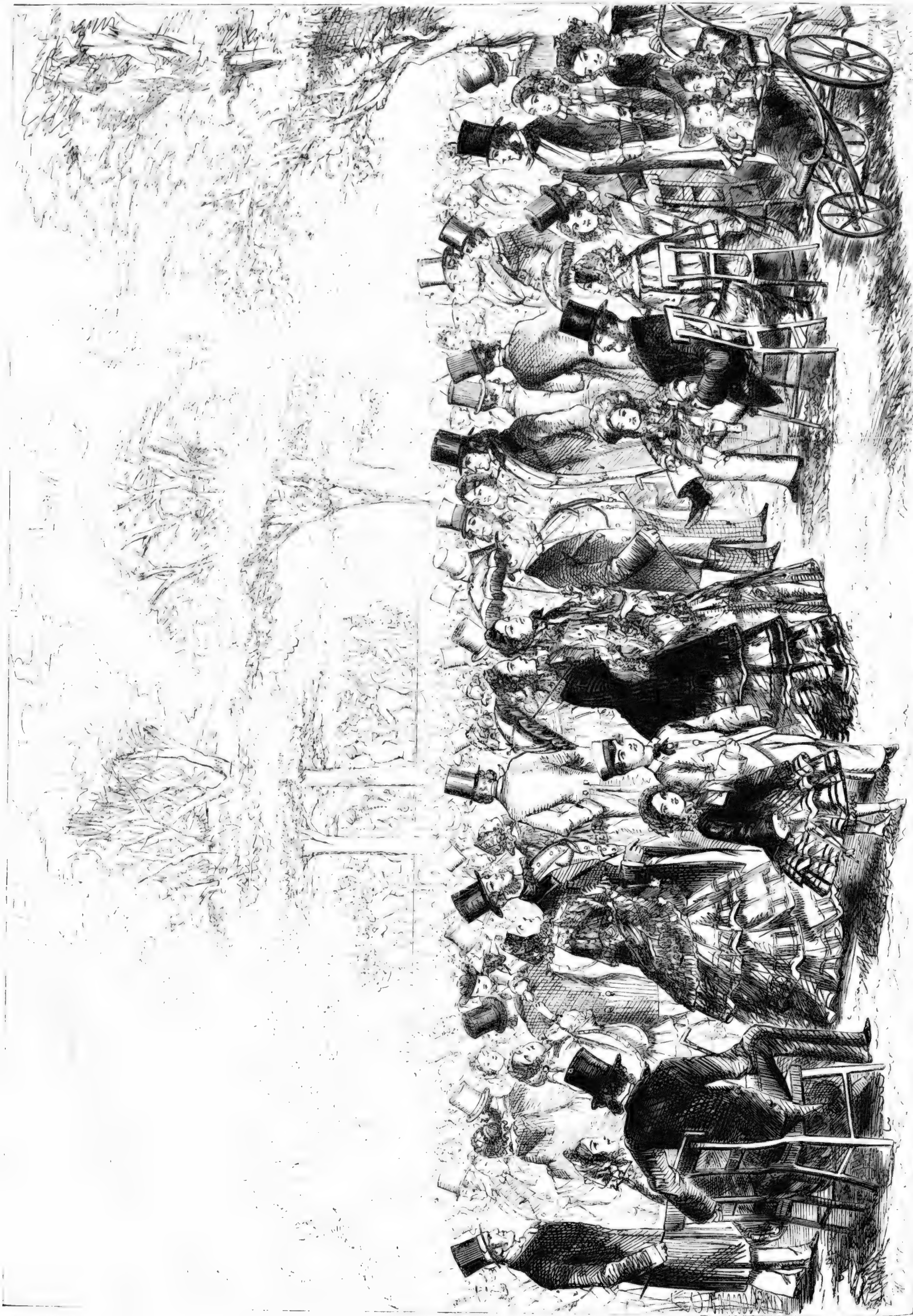
Surely the lamentable explosion in the Westminster Road will lead to some law forbidding the manufacture of fireworks in populous places! Powder-magazines are always situate in isolated localities; and so frequent have been the accidents from pyrotechnic explosions that some strict measures should be immediately adopted.

IMPERIAL DEDGON.—Prince Pierre Napoleon Bonaparte has addressed an angry letter to General de Fleischman, aide-de-camp to the King of Wurtemberg, relative to some statements affecting King Joseph, the Prince's father, which occur in the newly-published memoirs of Count Miot, edited by the General, who is the Count's son-in-law. The Prince calls Miot a "robber and a butcher;" a "liar or a dastard;" and concludes with the following delicate insinuation: "As to you, monsieur, since you have not feared to pick out of the mud the pen of the pamphleteer Miot, you will not forget, I conclude, that you carry a sword."

GLORIOUS WAR.—Fresh details have been published in St. Petersburg of the casualties suffered by the Russian army during the war in the Crimea. It appears that in the affair of the Tchernaya alone, there were 5,048 wounded, among whom were 246 officers and 7 generals. At Fort Nicholas, where the first hospital for the wounded was organised, as many as 200 amputations were performed on a single day, and one surgeon had often 500 patients to attend to. Most of the men who evacuated the Simpheropol hospital died on the march homewards.

THE NATIONAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.—On Saturday was issued an account of the public income and expenditure for the year ending the 30th of June, 1858. The gross income was £26,879,000, the expenditure £27,226,000, leaving an excess of the latter over the former of £246,000. Among the extraordinary items of expenditure were the Princess Royal's dowry, the cost of the Persian war (£200,000), and the expenses of the late war with China (£50,000). The balances in the Exchequer on the 30th of June, 1857, amounted to £5,611,000, and on the same day in 1858, to £5,882,000.

THE CZAR'S LIBERALITY.—A letter from Warsaw says: "The following is a new trait in the character of the Emperor Alexander, which proves how elevated are his views. An agricultural society has just been formed in this city, and it now reckons 1,200 members, composed of the principal landowners of the country. It held its first meeting here a few days since, and a considerable sensation was caused by it, as such an assemblage has never taken place since the last National Diet. The authorities became alarmed, and consulted the Emperor by telegraph. The following answer was, I am informed, returned:—'You say that 1,200 members of the Polish nobility have assembled at Warsaw, and that you feel uneasiness at the circumstance. For my part, I regret that the number is not greater.'"



CAPTURE OF A MERMAID.

A "mermaid," or angel fish, has been caught in the Forth. This strange fish is described as nearly six feet long, and weighing a hundred pounds. It has wings eight inches long, the face of a frog, and the tail of a shark. The belly is pure white, the back is light brown, the skin being rough, like that of a shark or dogfish. The wings are not unlike the two wings of a thick skate, and the teeth resemble those of a shark. The fish measures three feet across the wings. Just before it



MERMAID, OR ANGEL FISH, CAUGHT IN THE FORTH.

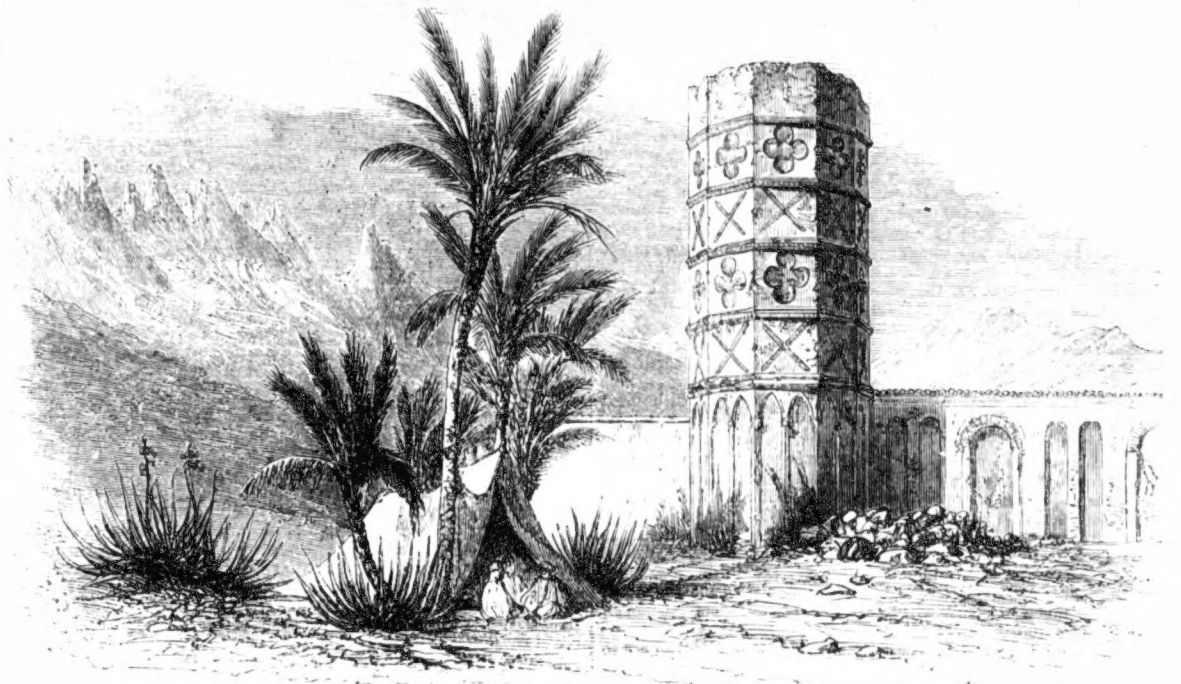
was caught, the fishermen saw it raise itself upright in the water, and then fly over the surface like a bird. It dived—ah, stern necessity!—and was caught in a turbot net.

JEDDAH.

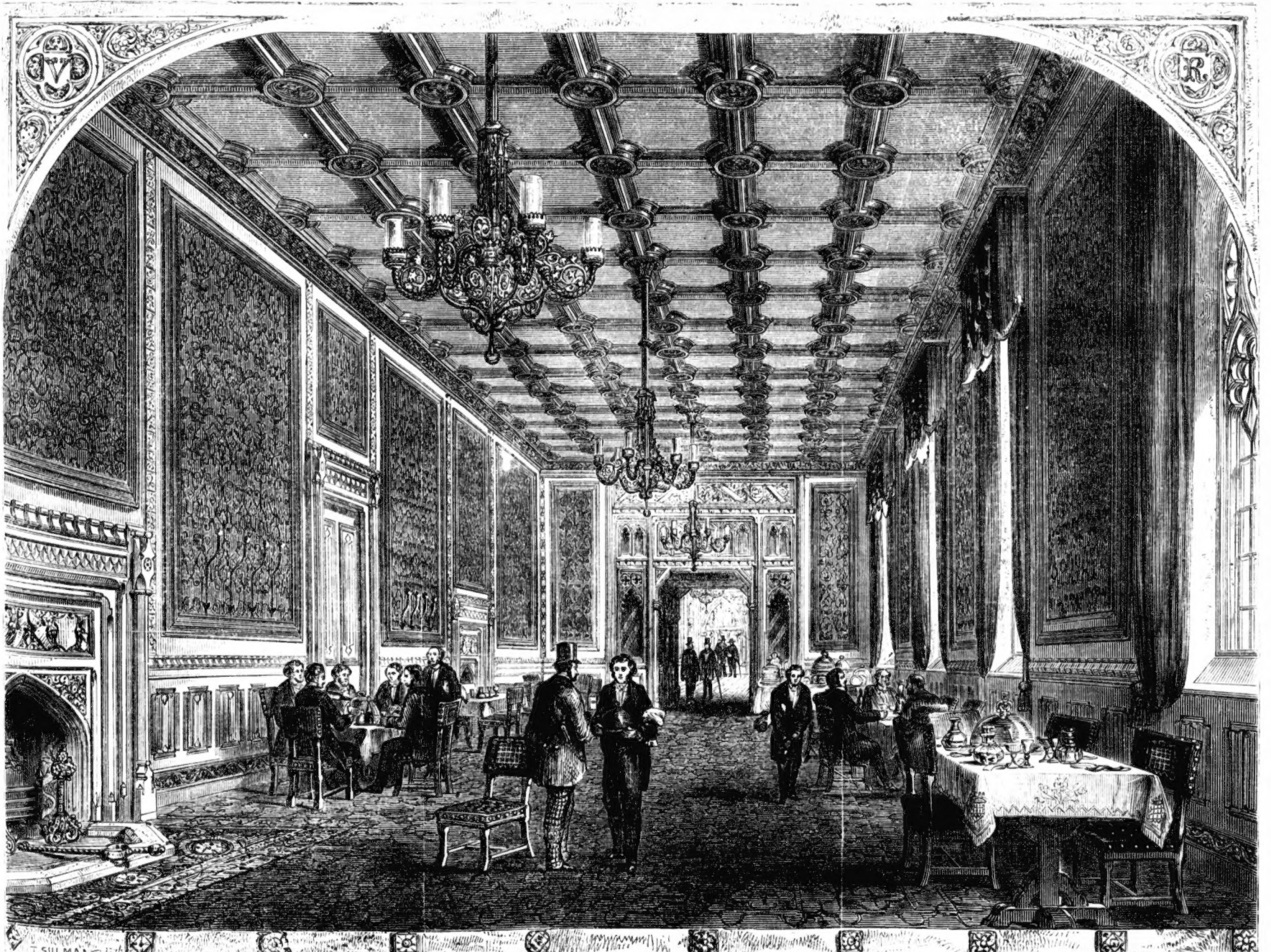
In McCulloch's "Geographical Dictionary," Jeddah is described as "a mart, city of Arabia, in El-Hedjaz, being the port of Mecca, and one of the chief entrepôts for foreign commerce in the peninsula. Latitude 21 deg. 32 min. 42 sec. N., longitude 39 deg. 6 min. E. Resident population, according to Ali Bey, 5,000, but this number is often very much increased by the influx of strangers. The inhabitants are nearly all foreigners, or settlers from other parts of Arabia; the only natives being a few sheriff families attached exclusively to the offices of religion and law. Five mosques, poor and mean, the governor's house, and a small castle, mounting nine or ten guns, are the only public buildings, except the khans, which are numerous and handsome. The houses in the town, built of stone and madrepora, are, from the perishable nature of the material, not very lasting; but in the suburbs they are mere

huts, constructed of reeds and brushwood, inhabited principally by Bedouins. The streets are unpaved; but Jeddah is, notwithstanding, cleaner, and in other respects superior to most Eastern cities of equal size. It is one of the holy places of Mahometanism, and its sanctity is increased by the neighbourhood of the reputed tomb of Eve, a rude stone structure, about two miles to the N. The surrounding country is a bare desert, destitute of running streams; and though well water is easily procurable, it is generally bad. The inhabitants collect the rain in cisterns, and the commonest necessities are brought from a distance. Corn, rice, butter, sugar, tobacco, oil, clothing, &c., are imported in very large quantities from Egypt, the Abyssinian coast, and (excepting butter) even from Persia and India. Jeddah depends, therefore, for its existence upon its trade, which is very extensive and wholly of the transit kind. From the interior dates, and the celebrated balm of Mecca, are brought for shipment westward; musk, civet, and incense, are procured from Abyssinia; muslins, cloths, cambrics, teak timber, cocoa-nuts, cocoa-nut oil, pepper, ginger, turmeric, shawls, tissue, &c., are brought from India; the Malay Islands send

spices and (what is not generally known) young females for sale at the Mecca market. The coffee trade, which, next to that of grain, was formerly the most important, has much declined of late, partly owing to the free admission of American produce to the Mediterranean, but principally to the impolitic exactions of the Pacha of Egypt upon this branch of commerce. A trade in slaves is carried on with the Mozambique coast; and, altogether, it is calculated that the port of Jeddah employs 250 vessels, great and small. The imported articles are conveyed by ships to Suez, whence they find their way to the Mediterranean ports, or by caravans to Mecca and Medina, from which cities they are again dispersed to Syria, Asia Minor, and Turkey. The caravans to Mecca start daily, those to Medina every forty or fifty days; but, besides this, Jeddah carries on no land trade, except with N. Yemen for corn. Twice at least in every year Jeddah is inundated with inhabitants, viz., on the arrival of the Indian fleet (about May), when merchants from all quarters pour in to purchase at the first hand; and during the hadj, when pilgrims come from all the African ports in vast numbers.



RUINS OF A MAHOMETAN MOSQUE IN THE VALLEY OF JEDDAH.



BELLAMY'S, HOUSE OF COMMONS.

REFRESHMENT ROOM.

EVERY Englishman has heard of Bellamy's, and the "Kitchen" of the House of Commons. Both these mean nearly the same; the place where Members of Parliament used to refresh themselves in the old House. "Bellamy's" properly means the whole establishment, which was called by that name, because from time immemorial a Bellamy had been purveyor. The "kitchen" proper, means, literally, what the term implies, the place where chops and steaks were cooked, and in which honourable members used to receive and eat them hissing and steaming from the gridiron. There was a dining-room apart from the kitchen, where a few more fastidious gentlemen used to dine; but many famous men preferred the kitchen. In Bellamy's days, no dinners were provided; but simply chops, steaks, and veal pie. And, if tradition is to be believed, glorious chops, and steaks, and pies they were, such as cannot be obtained now for love or money. "Bellamy's" has long since vanished. Its locality was somewhere opposite Post's Corner, in the angle formed by the Courts of Law and the new Houses. When the new Houses were opened, the office of purveyor was offered to a Bellamy; but as, henceforth, dinners were to be provided in the club-house style, the offer was declined. The refreshment-rooms of the palace are situated near the library, and consist of three apartments—two large capacious rooms, for the use of members, and a small one between the two which is used by the landlord as a bar. These rooms are, like every other part of the palace, fitted up with great elegance and taste, and when the members are dining in great numbers, and both the rooms are lighted up, the stranger from the country, who is allowed to peep in at the door, or, it may be, is invited to dine with the representatives, is not a little astonished at the splendour of the scene. The name of the caterer is Steers; and, on the whole, considering the difficulties which he labours under, the refreshment-rooms are creditably managed. These difficulties are very great. For instance, sometimes a heavy night is expected, and he provides a large stock of eatables. When the House breaks up early, and he has not a soul to consume them. Again, on another night, he feels sure that the House will be thin, and speedily end; when on a sudden some 100 members rush in when he has made little or no provision. How can a distressed caterer provide for guests who are so uncertain in their visits? Members complain that they cannot get such dinners here as they can at their clubs; but really this is not to be wondered at, considering the circumstances. If, however, a dinner is ordered beforehand, we have heard that the most fastidious have no reason to complain. Many think that it was a mistake to make that alteration from the old system. With due care to the quality of the meat, and the scientific attainments of the cook, the caterer could always place before you a capital chop or steak in a few minutes; but it is not easy to extemporise a dinner of soup, and fish, and fowl; and when some 100 members suddenly rush in, and all at once demand "dinners," the task would seem to be impossible. As there are only five months in the year when these rooms are open, and as at all times his trade is an uncertain one, the House considerably finds Mr. Steers all furniture, plate, and linen, and pays his servants' wages, and of course charges him nothing for rent, firing, and light. The kitchens and cellars are below—under the refreshment-rooms—and the viands are sent up by means of lifts. Many of the members make the House their home. In the library they read and write; in the refreshment-rooms they get their meals; and when the House breaks up, they retire to their lodgings to sleep. The old officers of the House say that the arrangements of the new palace are too comfortable. In the old House there were comparatively few comforts, and then members went away. And then they often got "counts out;" but now there are always so many members about, that "a count" is a rare thing.

OPERA AND CONCERTS.

MR. BALFE'S "Bohemian Girl" has been revived at her Majesty's Theatre with Giuglini, Beletti, Piccolomini, and Albini in the principal parts. Albini's character is quite unworthy of her. Her rôle, that of the Gipsy Queen, was originally played at Drury Lane by a Miss Betts, who certainly could never have imagined that one day some importance would be attached to it. Nor could such an idea have entered the head even of the composer himself, than whom no one can be more aware of its utter insignificance. Yelva, the Gipsy Queen, is, in fact, one of those parts which are perhaps necessary for filling up the crevices of a piece whose author aims at something like completeness and solidity of construction, but for which it is scarcely worth while to write airs, inasmuch as the artist on whom their execution would devolve, would in all probability be unable to sing them. Accordingly, Yelva is allowed to take part in some concerted music and in a duet, but her solo performances are strictly limited, in the original opera, to a fantasia on the pistol, which produces at least as much effect as could be expected from her singing. Now, however, this is changed, for Madame Albini has assumed the ungrateful rôle, and Madame Albini can sing nothing without rendering it beautiful. Not only does she become the principal figure in every scene in which she appears, but she has an air from the "Maid of Artois," to sing by way of *aria d'entrata* (to which the composer has prefixed a new slow movement), and this addition of a tolerable solo and of a perfect singer to the part, has the effect of making it the most interesting in the opera. Those persons who are constantly making an outcry about the decline of the drama (as if the decline of the drama in its present state, was not creditable to the intelligence of the public!), should observe how differently pieces are "cast" at operas and at ordinary theatres. The character of Yelva, in the "Bohemian Girl," is about as important (due proportion being observed) as that of Emilia in "Othello," but would the greatest actress in a dramatic company condescend to take such a part as Emilia under any circumstances? We think not. An actor with any pretension to the epithet of distinguished, would even hesitate about appearing as Iago to his rival's Othello; and yet we have no doubt that it never occurred to Signor Ronconi that he was in any way derogating by appearing as Iago to the Othello of Signor Tamburini. Of course the reason for this readiness to operate on the part of singers arises from the distinctness of the *emploi* assigned to each; but if actors had less vanity and more perception, they might find out that they also have their special parts, and that to insist on taking the chief rôle in every piece, without reference to anything but the mere prominence of the character, is scarcely less absurd than for a baritone to wish to sing the music of the tenor, or the bass that of the baritone.

As to the chief characters in the "Zingara," they are represented by the same singers who appeared in them at the beginning of the season, or rather, during the early season which preceded the present one. Beletti is the Bohemian nobleman—one of those, to judge from his dreary demeanour, who did not invent the polka, as distinguished from the celebrated one who did. He continues to sing "The heart bowed down" as well as it can be sung, and to wear a fur coat in his drawing-room.

Mademoiselle Piccolomini, as Arline, is encored in "I dreamt that I dwelt," which she, nevertheless, sings less well than the air to her father in the third act.

Giuglini's air, "When other lips," is encored twice—not *bis*, but *trise*—and bouquets are strewn upon him from the operatic heavens in the most prodigal manner. But Mr. Lumley's friends and Signor Giuglini's admirers should remember that bouquets are things to offer to women, and not to men. If it be necessary to throw something to a successful tenor, let it be cigar-cases, packets of cigarettes, or anything else that happens to be agreeable without being useful. In private life, you may offer a man a Havannah, as you would offer a lady a rose, without putting either under the least obligation; but to give your friend a flower would be about as absurd as to present the object of your affections with a "weed." The worst of it is, that if the tenor received cigars, he would, in all probability, smoke them; whereas he neglects the bouquets, which are picked up and made to serve again whenever it is desired to make him the object of a fresh horticultural fête.

The divertissement from the ballet of "La Sonnambula" has formed an agreeable termination to the evening's entertainment during the past fortnight. What an admirable story that of the "Sonnambula" must be, effective as it is in every form, whether it be the original drama (by M. Scribe), the opera, or the ballet!—the story of the beautiful dancer and the peasant part of Andrea as well as Madame Vestris and the Pochini in a better story than I have ever read. And I am sure that you have heard. Unfortunately, it is not so satisfactory as it might be; otherwise it might be shown that the ballet of "La Sonnambula" is superior to the opera of that name.

At the Royal Italian Opera, "Don Giovanni," with the ideal cast, is not yet announced for any particular night; but, on the other hand, "Martha" is played twice a week. Certainly the opera is admirably put upon the stage, as regards sheer magnificence; and many of the scenes are models of what scene painting should be. The costumes, too, are very brilliant, very fanciful, and, at the same time, marvellously correct—that is to say, they are marvellously correct imitations of the English costumes seen on the French stage. That the "getting up" of the "Huguenots," the "Prophet," and the "Etoile du Nord," should be copied exactly from the Académie or the Opéra Comique, even to the uniform attributed to the Preobrajensky Guards in the first-named opera, but which, in fact, belongs to quite a different period, and quite a different corps, was natural, pardonable, and, all things considered, commendable; for how could the comparatively inexperienced managers of the Royal Italian Opera hope to improve upon decorations and costumes which had received the approbation of the operatic directors of Paris, of the Parisian public, and, above all, of M. Meyerbeer himself? But, surely, we need not depend upon foreigners for our English costumes. Ought an English nobleman, even though his name be "Tristan di Mickleford," to appear before his astonished compatriots with one leg clothed in white and the other in green, simply because our enlightened neighbours choose to fancy that the pleasing contrast was one of the characteristics of the dress of a British "my-lord" in the eighteenth century? Where, too, did Lionel obtain the unprecedented tights which Signor Mario wears so gaily, and of which the pattern is obviously imitated from the interior of a backgammon board? Finally, what is the meaning of the "Martha" costumes generally, alike ungraceful and unauthentic as they are?

As to the music of "Martha," we have only to say what we said in other words last week—that it is lively, light to triviality, and sadly deficient in sentiment and grace. Many of the ballads are likely to become popular in the drawing-room, and this, by a natural reaction, will aid their popularity on the stage; but there is not a well-written scene in the entire opera; and between it and such a work as the "Elisir d'Amore," there is all the difference that exists between German prose and Italian poetry. By-the-by, what an excellent entertainment the "Elisir d'Amore" with "Martha" cut down to the "Last Rose of Summer," would be! We should then hear Madame Bosio in her best part, and "Martha" in its best part also.

At Drury Lane, "Linda di Chamouni," one of Donizetti's prettiest operas, and perhaps the most characteristic work he ever produced, has been brought out with great success. Madame Persiani appeared in her old part of Linda; that of the Savoyard is taken by Miss Baxter, a highly successful *débutante*, who, we understand, is Madame Persiani's pupil.

The last opera concert at the Crystal Palace differed from several of the others in this respect—that the artists announced to sing really did sing. Neither Mario nor Bosio was absent. The former sang Hutton's "Good-bye," &c.; the latter Venzano's waltz. The never-failing Grizi gave the willow song from "Otello;" and Graziani the air from the "Trovatore," which the public always applaud, forgetting apparently that it is Verdi's, and therefore not to be tolerated.

TERRIBLE SHIPWRECK.—The most terrible shipwreck that has occurred for many years in the Rio de la Plata took place on the 9th of May, when the schooner Flor de Salto, ran upon a sunken rock on the Banco Chico, while on her passage from Monte Video to Buenos Ayres, and out of thirty-six passengers twelve were lost. The vessel sunk immediately. The survivors were picked up by an Italian barque.

THE WAY TO THE ANTIPODES.—"There are three ways," says the "Times," "to these valuable possessions. We may either proceed on the path of our Indian route as far as Ceylon, and thence southwards—no mighty voyage—to Australia and New Zealand; or we may take the direct western route, stretching away across the Atlantic to Panama, and thence across the Pacific to New Zealand and Australia; or, thirdly, we may pass round the Cape of Good Hope, and strike the southern coast of the Continent of Australia. There is a fourth course, round Cape Horn, which only offers the advantage possessed by the alternative route to Paris—namely, that you may go if you please. But, of these three routes, the way by Panama is, as any one who looks at the map can see, the most direct, and, as we conceive, the best. The Panama Railway, which carries all the Californian gold on its way to New York, might reasonably be trusted with the Australian gold on its way to England, and the difficulties of coaling on the other side cannot, surely, be greater than those which beset the Peninsular and Oriental Company in keeping up their depot of coals at Aden. If the colliers that go from Sunderland round the Cape and beat up the Indian Ocean to deliver their freights at the mouth of the Red Sea can make a profitable voyage, there can be no difficulty in delivering coals on the shore of the Caribbean Sea, and running them across to the Pacific side of the Isthmus. The voyage round the Cape of Good Hope will, we presume, never again be adopted with a view to speed; and the Overland route, by way of Suez, has up to this time signally failed. Suppose we try the Panama route; it will relieve us at least from the labyrinth of blunders and failures in which we have involved ourselves, and from the speculators whose want of capital or conduct have led us into these misadventures. Let us do anything, only let us do it well, and let the object be effected. The colony is of Victoria—our sturdy, independent-minded, and somewhat plain-spoken young friend in that quarter of the world—is rich, liberal, and impatient. If the exigencies of our official precedents render it impossible for us to establish a line of steam-vessels across a couple of oceans, and to work them with regularity and at a moderate rate of speed, suppose we allow the youngsters to take the matter in hand himself? Our relations in the antipodes have a knack of finding out a way wherein to work their will, and they seem to have found out the wisdom of being sometimes lavish for a worthy object."

LAW AND CRIME.

LADY BULWER AND INSANITY.

ENGLISH ladies have been the means of bringing about several historic reforms in modern times. The horrible system of Algerine piracy, carried on with impunity in the face of all Christendom, existed for ages unchecked, until an English lady, the delight of London fashionable society, was captured on a Mediterranean summer cruise, with her husband, and carried off into slavery in Barbary. Then London began to bestir itself; men of power and influence became disquieted, and said, "It might have been my own case!"—an exclamation which has ever been a stronger motive power towards reform than any other ever arising from the human heart. When this cry arose, on the occasion to which we refer, it resulted in the bombardment of Algiers, the liberation of thousands of suffering Christian men and women from slavery, and the eternal abolition of the most anomalous terrorism ever known in the world; one of the weak over the strong—of barbarism over civilisation. Again, our marriage laws, by which a slavery, scarcely inferior in bitterness to that of the Algerine captives, was inflicted upon hundreds of unfortunate English wives, were lately reformed, principally upon consideration of the unhappy case of a celebrated and still living English authoress, as related by herself. A third blot upon our civilisation has been flagrantly demonstrated during the past week, and the victim is the unfortunate lady of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton. It has long been known to all connected with our metropolitan press, and probably to not a few beyond that well-informed class, that causes of dissension have induced a separation between the lady and the baronet. Sir Edward stood in this advantageous position, that while the lady was vehement and persistent in her accusations against him, he never deigned recrimination or reply, a fact which made journalists wary of comments upon the lady's published statements. Last week an announcement appeared in the journals to the effect that Lady Lytton

had been incarcerated in a private lunatic asylum. This was "done" in the lapse of a day or two, by a statement that the friends of the lady had determined upon a course of self-help, and measures to obtain her release. The *Times* of the 10th inst. published a short notice to the effect that the lady had been carried into custody by a party of certain friends, and that the lady's capture was related by a friend of the lady. A more narrative published in the *Standard* of the 11th inst. related that at Sir Edward Lytton's house, on the 10th inst., a party of ladies, in consequence of his having placed himself in a state of insubordination, in pursuance of a previously announced intention, had taken possession of the lady, and addressed the following communication to her:—*"We have, on the 10th inst., upon the subject of her own papers, and other matters, addressed at his hands, a communication to her, and have been informed that she has been extremely ill, and that she has been carried into custody by a party of certain friends, and that the lady's capture was related by a friend of the lady. A more narrative published in the *Standard* of the 11th inst. related that at Sir Edward Lytton's house, on the 10th inst., a party of ladies, in consequence of his having placed himself in a state of insubordination, in pursuance of a previously announced intention, had taken possession of the lady, and addressed the following communication to her:—"*

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